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HISTORY OF THE
COOKEVILLE DISTRICT
TENNESSEE CONFERENCE
THE METHODIST CHURCH

Presented it to
the National Synodical Society

Jan 10 1864
By
CULLEN T. CARTER
Historian
Tennessee Conference

THE PARTHENON PRESS
Nashville, Tennessee

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1956-1962
District Superintendent
REVEREND D. B. SARGENT

Books By the Author

Methodist Doctrinal Beliefs—1942

History of the Tennessee Conference—1948

History of Triune Methodist Church—1954 (Manuscript)

Regional Research Editor—Life and Letters of Asbury—1954

History of Methodist Churches and Institutions in Middle
Tennessee—1956

Methodism in the Wilderness—1959

Methodist Leaders in the Old Jerusalem Conference—1812-1962

History of the Cookeville District, Tennessee Conference—1962.

PREFACE

The Methodist Church made rapid progress in Middle Tennessee from 1787 to 1836. The progress east to the foot hills of the Cumberland Mountains was slower. It required one hundred and seventeen years to fully penetrate the Cumberlands. The Mountain obstacles were terrific. Had it not been for the spirit and genius of Methodism, the time would have been much longer.

This history of the Cookeville District is an effort to show how The Methodist Church, since 1803, reached its present status on the Cumberland Plateau; the agencies used in the operation; and some of the outstanding personalities who devoted their lives in building the Kingdom of God in the Cumberland Mountains in Tennessee.

January 17, 1962

CULLEN T. CARTER

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INTRODUCTION

Methodism in the Cookeville District has a long and significant history. Something of its story is told in these pages by the Reverend Cullen T. Carter, the historian of the Tennessee Conference, written at the request of the District Superintendent, the Reverend D. B. Sargent.

For long years the work in this district was faithfully carried on under such handicaps as isolation, mountain roads difficult to travel, and inadequate equipment with which to work. Today all this is changed, and the Cookeville District is one of the most progressive districts of the Tennessee Conference, and many of its churches are among our strongest and most effective congregations.

Better still, tomorrow looks still brighter for Methodism in all this section.

ROY H. SHORT
Nashville Area
The Methodist Church

CHAPTER I

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Cumberland Mountains

The Methodist Church entered the Cumberland Settlement in 1787 with the appointment of Benjamin Ogden by Bishop Asbury.

While The Methodist Church spread out from the famous Cumberland Settlement over Middle Tennessee like a spider web, it was sixteen years before it entered the Cumberland Plateau, when the Livingston Circuit was organized in 1803, in the Western Conference, with Jesse Walker as pastor. He was a frontiersman and a perfect child of nature. He was always going beyond. He organized The Methodist Church in Saint Louis and in Chicago when the cities were mere settlements.

We do not know how much territory was embraced in the Livingston Circuit when it was organized. Certainly under the leadership of Jesse Walker, it covered vast areas in the northern end of the Cumberland Mountains in Tennessee, long before counties were laid out.

Roaring River Circuit was organized in 1804, with Richard Browning as the first pastor. At the end of its first year, there were 237 White and 21 Negro members.

Caney Fork appeared in the minutes of the Western Conference for the first time in 1811, with John Page as

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

the pastor, who was a giant in the Wilderness. Through this Circuit, the pastor served areas in the foothills of the Cumberland Mountains and no doubt established Methodism on top of the mountain. At the end of his first year he reported 745 White and 167 Negro members.

The following Circuits in Southern Kentucky penetrated the eastern end of the Cumberland Mountains: Goose Creek, Barren, Green River, and Somerset. There is a log church standing today north of Jamestown, over the line in Kentucky, where Peter Cartwright had his famous historic religious battle with three Baptist preachers who endeavored to proselyte twenty-three of his young converts. Full story of this experience appears in Methodism in the Wilderness by Carter, pages 106-110.

CHAPTER II

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE

HINDRANCES TO PROGRESS

In the light of many seemingly insurmountable obstacles,—denominational opposition, Indian atrocities, trails instead of roads, high water without bridges, long distances between settlements, sparsely populated communities, diseases with few and often poorly prepared medical doctors, and scarcity of medicines—the spread of Methodism in the hill and mountain areas was indeed very slow.

Yet, in spite of these handicaps, The Methodist Church had sufficient number of members to organize the Caney Fork District in 1824. This district served the foothills of the Cumberland Mountains. The following Circuits composed the district: Smith Fork, Roaring River, Lebanon, Mountain, Caney Fork, Pond Springs, Bradford, and Stone's River. Rev. James Guin was the presiding elder.

At the end of the first year there was reported a total of 5,026 members—4,472 White and 554 Negro. No report from "Mountain."

In 1826, Mountain Circuit was dropped from the roll and White Circuit was added. In 1827, Lincoln, Murfreesboro and Shelbyville were added to the Caney Fork District.

In 1828, Caney Fork District became Cumberland District and the following Circuits were added: Fountain

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Head, Goose Creek, Gallatin and Cairo. Shelbyville was removed.

In 1829-1832, no change in the district. In 1833, the Caney Fork District was restored, with the following pastoral changes: Roaring River, Caney Fork, Sparta and McMinnville, Smith's Fork, Lebanon Circuit, Lebanon Station, Shelbyville, Mountain Mission.

The Cumberland District was reorganized with the following appointments: Goose Creek, Fountain Head, Gallatin and Cairo, White's Creek, Red River, Clarksville, Montgomery and Dover.

CHAPTER III

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE REORGANIZED

In 1835, the Tennessee Conference was reorganized. The name Lebanon District took the place of Caney Fork District. The new district had the following changes: Lebanon Station, Lebanon Circuit, Smith's Fork, Cumberland, Murfreesboro, McMinnville and Sparta, Mountain Mission.

The church membership in the seven pastoral charges was as follows:

Charges	Whites	Negro
Lebanon Station	98	44
Lebanon Circuit	911	105
Smith's Fork	865	113
Cumberland	806	26
Murfreesboro	87	80
McMinnville and Sparta	82	30
Mountain Mission	316	16
Totals	3,165	414
Grand Total	3,579	

In 1836, a drastic shift was made in the new district—Goose Creek, Caney Fork were added, and Murfreesboro, McMinnville and Sparta were removed. Slight shifting in district lines was made in 1837, 1838, and 1839.

In 1840 the following districts composed the Tennessee Conference—Nashville, Cumberland, Murfreesboro, Huntsville, Florence, Clarksville. In the six districts, there were

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

21,973 White and 4,405 Negro members, making a total of 26,378 members. The pastoral charges in the Cumberland Mountains were added to the Cumberland and Murfreesboro Districts.

CHAPTER IV

DIVISION OF AMERICAN METHODISM

In 1844, the year American Methodism was divided, there were eight districts in the Tennessee Conference as follows—Nashville, Cumberland, Murfreesboro, Winchester, Huntsville, Florence, Dover, Clarksville. The pastoral charges in the Cumberland Mountains were placed in the Cumberland District. They were as follows—Carthage, Cumberland, Gainesboro, Livingston, Caney Fork, Short Mountain, Hickory Creek, Bedford.

In 1858 the following pastoral charges were placed in the Lebanon, Carthage and McMinnville Districts. Carthage, Cumberland, Livingston, Sparta Station, Sparta Circuit, Cookeville, Short Mountain, and Woodbury.

In 1860, the Carthage District embraced the Mountain Charges as follows: Carthage Circuit, Wartrace (Dycus Circuit), Smith's Fork, Cumberland, Livingston Circuit, Sparta Station, Sparta Circuit, Cookeville, Short Mountain, Woodbury.

At the first Annual Conference after the Civil War, 1865, the appointments in the Carthage District were the same as in 1860, except the Sparta Circuit was with Cookeville. In 1860, the membership in the Carthage District was 5,190—of this number 450 were Negroes.

In 1865, the membership in the Carthage District was 4,307—of this number 211 were Negroes.

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

In 1879, the pastoral charges in the Carthage District were as follows: Carthage Circuit, Mt. Olivet Circuit, Alexandria Circuit, Cumberland Circuit, Cokesbury Circuit, Celina Circuit, Wartrace (Dycus Circuit), Goose Creek Circuit, Gainesboro Mission, Cookeville Mission, Livingston Circuit, Red Sulphur Springs Mission.

The fourteen charges paid for missions, foreign and domestic, the following amounts:

Carthage Circuit	\$ 20.00
Mt. Olivet Circuit	17.30
Alexandria Circuit	32.00
Cumberland Circuit	9.00
Cokesbury Circuit	2.25
Wartrace Circuit	9.00
Goose Creek Circuit	60.00
Gainesboro Mission	0.00
Cookeville Mission	11.00
Livingston Circuit	7.00
Monroe Mission	0.00
LaFayette Circuit	4.00
Total	<u>\$176.35</u>

Celina, Red Sulphur Springs Missions not listed.

The district was assessed for missions a total of \$598.95.

There was not a Woman's Missionary Society in the Carthage, McMinnville, Savannah, Fayetteville, Centerville districts, and only one in the Clarksville. The Conference Treasurer paid mission charges in the Carthage District the following amounts:

Pastor Cookeville Missions	\$ 71.10
----------------------------------	----------

DIVISION OF AMERICAN METHODISM

Pastor Gainesboro Missions	71.10
Pastor Monroe Missions	71.10
Presiding Elder—serving three Missions	213.30
Total	<u>\$426.60</u>

The District paid for Missions a total of \$176.35. It received \$250.25 more than it paid for Missions.

There was not a Sunday School in the Gainesboro Mission, Monroe Mission, LaFayette Mission. There was a total of 46 in the District. A total enrollment of 2,023. Officers and teachers—266.

CHAPTER V

MEMORIAL TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

In 1887, the eleven districts in the Conference were reduced to ten. Carthage District was absorbed. The pastoral charges were placed in the following districts: *Lebanon*—Carthage Circuit, Alexandria Circuit, Livingston Circuit, Goose Creek Circuit, New Middleton Circuit, Cookeville, Wartrace Circuit (Dycus Ct.), Gainesboro Mission became Granville and Gainesboro Mission, Byrdstown Mission, Liberty Circuit, Celina Mission: *Murfreesboro*—Stone's River Mission, Woodbury Circuit. *East Nashville*—LaFayette Circuit, Rev. T. L. Moody was the presiding elder of the new Lebanon District.

After one year, 1888, the Lebanon District reported 6,562 White members and one Negro member whose membership was in the Celina Mission.

149 infants were baptized. Nine charges were without parsonages and nine with parsonages. The Lebanon Circuit had the first parsonage in the district which was valued at \$2,000.00.

No evaluation for other church property in ten pastoral charges. The Presiding Elder's salary was assessed at \$1,000 of which he received \$781.05. Total amount assessed for the eighteen pastors was \$6,795.00, of which only \$5,253.68 was paid. Lebanon Station was assessed and paid the largest pastoral salary, \$1,050.00. Byrdstown Mission assessed

MEMORIAL TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

the lowest salary, \$100.00, of which only \$35.25 was paid. Rev. J. L. Smotherman was the pastor. He was a member of the Tennessee Conference for sixty-five years—admitted on trial in 1886 and died in 1951.

Other salaries ranged from \$36.40 to \$501.30. Other financial reports were paid in proportion to salaries.

While finances were low in the district, the evangelistic results were high—343 adults and 149 infants were baptized.

In 1889, seventy three years ago, the Second Quarterly Conference of the Wolf River Mission, memorialized the General Conference, through the Lebanon District Conference and the Tennessee Annual Conference, as follows—

On the second day of the Conference the following memorial was presented and adopted:

The second Quarterly Conference for the current year (1888-9) for Wolf River Mission, Lebanon District, Tennessee Annual Conference, M. E. Church, South, respectfully memorialize the District Conference to memorialize the Annual Conference to memorialize the General Conference to return as formerly to the Holston Conference the territory lying between the Cumberland Mountain and Obed River to Clay County eastern line, and with this eastern line of Clay County north to the Kentucky line, and thence east with the Kentucky line to Cumberland Mountain. The territory referred to embraces nearly all of Pickett County and that part of Fentress not now occupied by the Holston Conference. Reasons:

1. It is more convenient to serve this territory from the

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Holston side. There is no particular difficulty in getting to it from the present Holston border. High water can seldom keep the presiding elder or preacher in charge from a Quarterly Conference or appointments from that side. Obed and Wolf are nothing but little creeks that can be forded at any season, approaching from the Holston side.

2. Approached from the Tennessee Conference side, Obed and Wolf rivers must be crossed where they are rapid and dangerous streams from early autumn till late in the spring. There is no bridge to either of these streams, and only one ferry boat to one and none on the other, and that boat cannot be managed with safety. It has been known to run away with the ferryman and go down the river in attempting to cross. From the Holston side none of this is encountered by preacher in charge or presiding elder in serving the work.

3. The people want to go that way. They petitioned once before.

Signed in behalf of the second Quarterly Conference for the current year 1888-9 for Wolf River Mission, Lebanon District, Tennessee Annual Conference, April 6, 1889.

T. L. Moody, P. E.

H. S. KENNEDY, Secretary

A true copy. Attest.

John B. Jordan

Secretary of District Conference

This memorial was an effort to better penetrate and serve the Cumberland Plateau in those early years.

CHAPTER VI

MAKING PROGRESS

In 1889, the Conference Board of Missions made appropriations to twenty-six mission appointments in the Tennessee Conference.

Only two appropriations of the twenty-six were made in the Lebanon District, which later became the Cookeville District—

Wolf River Mission\$125.00

Short Mountain Circuit and Mission 300.00

In 1892 the Methodist Church had penetrated deeper into the Cumberland Mountains as the following appointments reveal:

Cookeville Circuit
Smithville Circuit
Pleasant Grove
Flynn's Lick Mission
Liberty Circuit
Livingston Circuit
Overton Mission
Wolf River Mission
Chaunte Mission

Chestnut Mound Circuit
Mt. Olivet Circuit
Wartrace Circuit (Dycus
Circuit)
Trammel Circuit
Hartsville Circuit
Lebanon Circuit
New Middleton Circuit
Gainesville Circuit

The nineteen pastoral charges paid for ministerial services as follows:

	Presiding Elder	Pastors
Lebanon Station	\$161.00	\$900.00
Carthage and Alexandria	92.00	600.00

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

	Presiding Elder	Pastors
Cookeville Circuit	0.00	0.00
Smithville Circuit	42.50	300.00
Pleasant Grove	23.75	210.40
Flynn's Lick Mission	25.00	35.00
Liberty Circuit	67.00	455.00
Livingston Circuit	27.40	150.75
Overton Mission	3.00	35.00
Wolf River Mission	0.00	0.00
Chaunte Mission	0.00	0.00
Chestnut Mound Circuit	33.15	303.75
Mt. Olivet Circuit	50.50	315.00
Wartrace Circuit	35.37	258.13
Trammel Circuit	29.00	251.50
Hartsville Circuit	88.00	538.00
New Middleton Circuit	47.25	296.80
Gainesville Circuit	44.98	368.54
Lebanon Circuit	65.50	400.00

CHAPTER VII

COOKEVILLE DISTRICT APPEARS

The reorganization of the Tennessee Annual Conference became necessary by 1920 because the pastoral charges in the Cumberland Mountains became more numerous and stronger financially. In the reorganization, the Cookeville District appeared, which was an *all mountain district*. It required 117 years, since 1803, to reach this status. For the first time in over a century, there was homogeneity in the Methodist Church in the Cumberlands. An effort to mix mountain people with valley people in the same administration, seemingly had come to an end. A new day for the Methodist Church in the Cumberland Mountains had dawned. The new day was reflected in the finances, increased membership, Sunday Schools, Missionary Societies, church building and equipment, and in the appointments.

Following are the pastoral appointments for four years:

1920—1921

	Salary Paid
Presiding Elder W. H. Beasley	\$1,223
Bon Air and Clifty Mission B. H. Brandon	900
Byrdstown Mission E. C. Edens	0
Celina Mission Clyde Ensor	365
Cookeville Mission J. W. Crigger	333
Cookeville Station A. P. Walker	1,800
Crawford and Wilder Mission W. A. Beaty	141
Crossville Mission C. F. Starnes	502

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

		Salary Paid
Cumberland Mission	G. W. Snipes	160
Hillham Mission	A. T. Judkins	200
Jamestown Mission	Robert Hall	250
Livingston Mission	A. K. Hankins	400
Livingston Station	S. M. Ensor	1,500
Oakley Mission	L. F. Dickens	235
Rickman Circuit	P. E. Ramsey	608
Sparta Circuit	B. J. Rochelle	731
Sparta Station	L. W. Stewart	1,500

1921—1922

Presiding Elder	W. H. Beasley	\$1,345
Bon Air and Clifty Mission	B. H. Brandon	886
Byrdstown Mission	E. C. Edens	53
Celina Mission	A. T. Judkins	330
Cookeville Mission	Thurston Tipps	320
Cookeville Station	A. P. Walker	2,000
Crawford and Wilder Mission	Roy Angel	328
Crossville Mission	W. H. Blue	880
Boyle Mission	To be supplied	148
Hillham Mission	To be supplied	25
Jamestown Mission	Robert Hall	290
Livingston Mission	W. B. Cates	270
Livingston Station	B. J. Duncan	1,200
Oakley Mission	A. K. Hankins	335
Rickman Circuit	G. W. Baxter	504
Sparta Circuit	J. W. Crigger	522
Sparta Station	R. J. Craig	1,500

1922—1923

Presiding Elder	E. P. Anderson	\$3,304
Alexander and Watertown	W. H. Beasley	1,500
Algood and Brotherton	C. R. Hosale	800
Byrdstown Mission	E. C. Edens	86
Cainsville Mission	Elisha Henry	800

COOKEVILLE DISTRICT APPEARS

		Salary Paid
Carthage Circuit	John S. Rice	1,300
Chestnut Mound Circuit	S. F. Sands	716
Cookeville Station	W. M. Cook	2,400
Cookeville Mission	H. T. Tipps	325
Celina Mission	A. T. Judkins	381
Crossville	W. H. Blue	570
Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove	T. E. Marshall	300
Crawford and Davidson Mission	Roy Angel	313
Gainsboro Mission	K. A. Early	750
Gordonsville Circuit	S. M. Keathley	1,185
Granville Mission	D. A. Ensor	530
Hillham Mission	L. D. McDonald	60
Jacob's Hill Circuit	Omar Charles	1,010
Jamestown Mission	Robert Hall	370
Keltonsburg Mission	O. A. Kirby	385
Lebanon Circuit	J. O. Crawford	1,175
Lebanon Station	W. H. Johnston	2,500
Liberty Circuit	J. L. Smothermon	1,000
Livingston Station	B. J. Duncan	1,200
Monterey Station	J. D. Hewgley	1,600
Oakley Mission	A. K. Hankins	335
Paran Circuit	V. S. Massey	520
Rickman Mission	C. S. Moffatt	131
Rome Circuit	A. R. Gibbons	1,072
Smithville Mission	F. H. Coleman	600

1923—1924

Presiding Elder	H. M. Jarvis	\$3,029
Algood	C. R. Hosale	650
Bon Air and Clifty Mission	B. H. Brandon	502
Celina Mission	A. K. Hankins	367
Chestnut Mound Circuit	S. F. Sands	721
Cookeville Mission	D. A. Ensor	243
Cookeville Station	W. M. Cook	2,400
Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove	T. E. Marshall	291
Crawford and Davidson	Robert Hall	118

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

		Salary Paid
Crossville	A. Faxon Small	900
Doyle	O. W. Jones	431
Gainsboro	E. M. Wise	755
Granville	A. T. Judkins	511
Jamestown	J. W. Madewell	549
Keltonsburg	O. A. Kirby	400
Livingston	B. J. Duncan	1,400
McMinnville Mission	R. J. Tucker	532
McMinnville Station	C. E. Hawkins	1,900
Monterey	J. D. Hewgley	1,600
Oakley	E. C. Edens	264
Paran	V. S. Massey	580
Rickman	W. C. Johnson	250
Smithville	F. H. Coleman	600
Sparta Circuit	J. W. Clifford	447
Sparta Station	R. J. Craig	1,500

THE ALL MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, 1920-1921, when homogeneity prevailed throughout the newly formed Cookeville District, did not survive long on account of our Methodist polity. Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, who was the first Methodist preacher west of the Mississippi River to be elected to the episcopacy, was assigned to the Tennessee Annual Conference. His first session of the Old Jerusalem Conference was held at Fayetteville, Tennessee, October 18-23, 1922. He was accustomed in the West to very large districts with thirty to fifty pastoral charges each. It was not out of the ordinary for a presiding elder to travel sixty to seventy miles to conduct a quarterly conference in a single day. He thought the Tennessee Conference should have fewer districts with larger number of pastoral charges in each district. Therefore, at his first session, with prac-

COOKEVILLE DISTRICT APPEARS

tically no experience with Methodism in Tennessee, he endeavored to fit the work in his new Conference into the mold of a Texas Conference. He did away with the name "Cookeville District" and used in its stead "Lebanon District." He intermingled mountain pastoral charges with foothills and valley charges and came up with twenty-nine pastoral charges in the new Lebanon District. He worked for numbers regardless—and not for homogeneity. AND IT DID NOT WORK. An effort was made early in the new Bishop's administration to correct the mistake but it was many years before the Methodist Church in the Cumberland Mountains could approach its organization in 1920-1921 which required a hundred and seventeen years to achieve.

CHAPTER VIII

METHODISM WELL ESTABLISHED IN THE CUMBERLANDS

In the course of time Methodism became better adjusted for the Cumberland Mountains and for the next thirty-six years the statistics were up and down with more ups than downs. The reports for 1961 reveal the fact that Methodism had become a solid, permanent part of life on the mountains as well as in the valleys and on the plains in Middle Tennessee, and that the Cookeville District could be served as comfortably as any district in the Conference. Compare the following salaries for pastors with those of 1825—

Algood	\$4,200	Dowelltown Circuit	3,000
Baxter	3,400	Doyle Circuit	2,318
Baxter Parish	1,250	Forbus Circuit	1,757
Celina Circuit	3,200	Gainesboro	3,400
Chestnut Mound Circuit	1,900	Granville Circuit	2,400
Clarkrange-Cartwright ..	2,155	Grimsley Circuit	1,500
Cookeville-First Church .	8,000	Homestead	3,640
Cookeville-Paran Circuit	2,750	Jamestown	4,250
Park View	3,250	Jamestown Circuit	300
Salem-Brotherton	2,050	Livingston	6,200
Summerfield	2,000	Livingston Circuit	1,745
Crossville-First Church .	5,300	Maggart-Mt. Zion	2,200
Crossville Circuit	2,500	Monterey	4,868
Cumberland Circuit ...	1,600	Mt. Gilead	3,200
Dale Hollow Circuit ...	2,050	Rickman Circuit	2,500

METHODISM WELL ESTABLISHED

Shady Grove Circuit ...	2,550	Sparta	5,200
Short Mountain Circuit .	2,500	Sparta Circuit	2,700
Smithville	5,000	District Superintendent	
Smithville Circuit	2,600	Fund	4,110

CHAPTER IX

CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES FOR THE SPREAD OF METHODISM IN THE CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS

Many agencies contributed to the growth of The Methodist Church in the Cumberland Mountains, but the following are among the most important:

RAILROADS

The Tennessee Central Railroad, the Sparta and Cowan branches of the former N.C.&St.L. Railroad made it easy to reach the interior of the mountains, and the inhabitants of the mountains could more easily come in contact with the outside world. The railroads were also an economic boost to the mountain people by providing quick transportation for raw materials—coal, and lumber especially.

PAVED HIGHWAYS

Up until 1919, travel, except by railroads, was largely by foot, ox cart, horse and wagon. Today citizens can step into automobiles and go to places far and near without difficulty.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Pleasant Hill Academy sponsored by the Congregational Church; Alpine Institute sponsored by the Presbyterian

THE SPREAD OF METHODISM

Church; Livingston Academy sponsored by the Disciples of Christ; Baxter Seminary and Cumberland Mountain School sponsored by the Tennessee Conference of The Methodist Church; rendered inestimable service in producing an exceedingly high type of Christianity among the mountain people. We have heard through the years of the great work accomplished by all these institutions but will only speak especially of Baxter Seminary and Cumberland Mountain School in this connection.

Baxter Seminary is located at Baxter, Tennessee, six miles west of Cookeville, Tennessee, on the Tennessee Central Railroad. It was an institution of the former Methodist Episcopal Church. The unification of American Methodism placed this institution in the new Tennessee Conference of The Methodist Church.

Prior to the organization of Baxter Seminary, the Methodist Episcopal Church conducted a small mission school at Summertown, Tennessee, one at Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee, and one at Bloomington Springs, Tennessee. They were very small mission schools, not much above grammar school level, and were only conducted a few years.

When the three mission schools went out of existence, the citizens of Baxter requested the Methodist Episcopal Church to help in the organization of a school for that area. The plan was finally approved, work was begun and Baxter Seminary opened its doors in the fall of 1905, with only the basement floor in the Girls' Hall ready for use. The second story was added in 1909, and the third and fourth stories were added in 1910.

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Soon after the opening of the new school in 1908, all that was left of the three defunct mission schools was brought to Baxter Seminary. The total amount was not over a thousand dollars. The old bell used at the Summer-town school is now on the Girls' Hall tower at Baxter Seminary. The books in the Red Boiling Springs school library were moved also to Baxter. They were old, small print and of little use. Some of them are keepsakes.

For a period of fifteen years, 1908 to 1923, Baxter Seminary had three presidents; S. E. Ryan served three years, Frank S. Ditto served five years, and Patton R. Broyles served seven years.

When Dr. Harry L. Upperman became president June 23, 1923, the property was valued at \$35,913.00, with an indebtedness of \$5,000. There were four teachers and fifty students. Thirty-seven students lived within a radius of three miles from the school and thirteen students, five boys and eight girls, lived in the dormitories. For twenty-five years, Dr. and Mrs. Upperman "through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises," and performed miracles.

Baxter Seminary, 1939, had the following assets: Endowment \$156,000.00, valuation of the property \$471,460.50, Ivy Hall for Girls, the Pfeiffer Administration Building, Gymnasium, the Ward Hall for Boys, Health House, a farm of 280 acres, two barns, five homes for faculty members and staff members, an orchard, Trades School building, Veterans' Trades School with building and equipment.

At the author's request, Dr. Upperman prepared the fol-

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lowing description of activities at Baxter Seminary: "At the present time there are three hundred and eighty-five enrolled, of whom 204 are boys and 181 are girls. Of these, including Training-on-the-Job men and extra men who come into the school for special courses, there are at least one hundred and ten Veterans. At the present time the Faculty is composed of twenty-two Christian men and women, each with specialized training in his or her special field of teaching and work. The faculty is made up of ten men and twelve women. The Curricula is that of an A-1 Secondary School and is so listed by the Department of Education of the State of Tennessee. The school is a member of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges and is approved by the University Senate of The Methodist Church. Departments in the school are those of English, History, Bible, Religious Education, the Sciences, Classical and Modern Languages, Speech, Music, Mathematics, Home Economics, Agriculture, Business Training, and eighteen courses in the Trades Department.

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"The John W. Lowe Trades School offers the following courses: General Building Trades, Carpentry, Masonry, Electricity, Plumbing, Painting, Mechanical Drawing and Blue Print Reading, Machine Woodwork, Cabinet and Furniture Making, Poultry Raising and Management, Dairy Herd Management, Horticulture, Agriculture, General Farm Practices, Truck Gardening, and Repair Operation, and Maintenance of Farm Equipment. We are offering a special course in Stenotype and, also, in Bookkeeping.

"Baxter Seminary specializes in a self-help program in

HIISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

which much emphasis is placed upon constructive buildings. Not only do the students work their way through, to a considerable degree in these days of high prices, especially if the student is worthy and in need of such self-help service—but the student has the privilege of making beautiful, as well as useful, articles.

“On the Campus of Baxter Seminary, through student labor under the self-help program, the following buildings have largely been erected: The Trades School; the Boys’ Hall, with each additional wing having been added as needed; the Health House; and to a considerable degree, the Gymnasium; a great deal of Pfeiffer Administration-Academic Building; and the President’s home. Also, done by student help are four of the six houses upon the campus which were remodeled by the students under faculty supervision, especially the Director and assistance of the John W. Lowe Trades School.

“Much attention is paid to the health of the Faculty and students and to the extent the Health House is under the direction of a capable trained nurse and has in it ten hospital beds, as well as the regular offices for a Doctor and a Nurse and two Faculty apartments and its own kitchen.

“The school emphasizes farm life with the student help program again the major feature and here the garden, the dairy, the regulation farming, poultry raising offer an opportunity not only for practical training in Agriculture but for service to the school in supplying a part of the food necessary for those who live in the dormitories.

“The religious life of Baxter Seminary is constantly kept

at high levels. Under student direction, but with Faculty supervision, the students conduct the regular daily Chapel exercises, hold Prayer Meetings in the dormitories, carry on Young Women's Christian Association, and the Young Men's Christian Association in both day and evening groups, and the Methodist Youth Fellowship, which has as its President a Senior Boy and a Senior Girl as Chairman of Evangelism for the District. Daily Bible reading is under the Direction of Bible and Religious Education Classes; and the presence of returned Missionaries who have served in Africa and India has aroused a great deal of interest in Missionary work. Two of the students have regular charges and four students are planning to study for the Ministry while fifteen graduates within recent years have entered the Ministry. Six girls are preparing for Missionary service and a number of the girls are seeking to be nurses and to engage in various forms of Christian service as nurses.

"On the Faculty at the present time are five graduates of Baxter Seminary while the present erection of the barracks and the new Trades School and the Cafeteria are under direction of four other graduates. In Putnam and the surrounding counties are many of the public school teachers who are graduates of Baxter Seminary, while other graduates are in the business world, farming, office work, and general, useful citizens, and in various Churches.

"The girls who have taken Home Economics and kindred subjects have contributed to finer homes and home life in this section of the State. During the recent world war three hundred and sixty-five graduates and former students

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

(both men and women) served the nation in all branches of the service, while the school itself emphasized all agencies needed to help the government during the crises brought on by the war.

"The graduates of Baxter Seminary are not only found in all walks of life throughout the Upper Cumberland section but are now spreading across the nation and are found in various industrial centers; thus showing that the school has grown away from serving only near-by communities but is serving those needs as well as serving other sections and helping to graduate out into the world not only students with academic knowledge but also those who are of service as mechanics, draftsmen, carpenters, bricklayers, blacksmiths, teachers of various farm and trades subjects, vocational directors, and general office workers.

"The school is seeking to use all available building space and at this time is so crowded that it is turning away students and many Veterans are unable to be accepted. The endowment of the school at this time is \$156,000, largely the fine gift of Mrs. Henry Pfeiffer who died in 1946. The school is without debt and is striving hard to remain that way. It is in need of one hundred and fifty workshops, at \$150.00-\$250.00 each which enables a school to help a boy or girl on the self-help program as the workshop provides the working capital with which the school may operate while the student is getting the benefit of the student aid through work.

"The main buildings are situated on a campus of twenty

acres, beautifully landscaped, with sufficient room for the additional Boys' Hall already secured and paid for.

"Practically every Sunday members of the Faculty and of the student body speak in various Methodist Churches, taking Gospel teams and representing the cause of the Church to new congregations."

On July 1st, 1957, the Rev. Paul A. Barker became President of Baxter Seminary upon the retirement of Dr. Harry L. Upperman. Handicaps due to the results of an automobile wreck in March, 1953, caused the physicians of Dr. and Mrs. Upperman to recommend that each retire. Dr. Upperman had served as President with great difficulty during the period from March, 1953 to July 1st, 1957. Mrs. Elma C. Upperman, wife of the President, had ably assisted in the activities of Baxter Seminary during that period. The administration of President Barker witnessed the completion of the Gymnasium, the securing of additional workshops and scholarships, the encouragement of church connectional activities, and improvements in school and dormitories facilities.

In the early part of 1959 the Board of Education of Putnam County, Tennessee, entered into negotiations with President Barker and committees appointed by the Board of Trustees of Baxter Seminary with a view of purchasing a part of the school plant of Baxter Seminary for a County High School. A transaction resulted in which Pfeiffer Administration and Academic Hall, The John W. Lowe Trades School, Merner Science Hall, Friends Gymnasium, Central Heating Plant, Football Field, with approximate-

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

ly twenty acres of land involved, became the property of Putnam County for high school purposes on July 1st, 1959, for the sum of two hundred thousand (\$200,000.00) dollars. Putnam County through its Board of Education acquired the foregoing property from the Board of Trustees of Baxter Seminary while at the same time making continuous an A-1 Grade High School training available to the student clientele of the Upper Cumberland Area in and around Baxter, Tennessee.

The Board of Trustees not only served the Baxter Seminary area in this manner, but on March 17th, 1959, passed the proper resolution that the \$200,000.00 paid for a part of the school plant, the part of the school which was transferred to Putnam County, be used for scholarships and workshops for boys and girls to attend Martin College, and that the boys and girls of the Upper Cumberland section of Tennessee would be given priority for the scholarships and workshops of the Fund derived from the scholarship fund which has been set up, this Fund being administered by the Tennessee Conference Foundation.

The Baxter Seminary Board of Trustees continues a program which serves youths and adults in church school activities; by use of its dormitories for boys and its dormitories for girls, campus houses, the D.A.R. Health House, in providing classes for youth and adult education, and for groups which gather there for church school center studies, under the sponsorship of Churches, Church School Officials, Boards of Education, Missions Study Classes, in Workshops and special training departments. A capable

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staff supervises the entire institution throughout the year, maintaining the properties, and improving all facilities. These matters are all carried out by the designated persons named by the Board of Trustees of Baxter Seminary, with Dr. Harry L. Upperman as the present President. There has been named by the Board of Trustees of Baxter Seminary a Committee which is known as the Baxter Seminary-Tennessee Annual Conference Program Committee, and this Committee serves for the purpose of studying different programs to be carried on and to be active on the present campus of Baxter Seminary, at Baxter, Tennessee, and that said programs have been and are now being carried on. The recommendations are made at regular meetings of the Board of Trustees of Baxter Seminary.

Baxter Seminary,
December 9th, 1961.

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN SCHOOL AND REV. ROBERT HALL

Robert Hall was admitted on trial at the Annual Conference session in Mt. Pleasant in 1916, when he was fifty years old or over. He was placed on the superannuated list in 1931, and died at Doyle in 1943. His brief active ministry of fifteen years was spent in the Cumberland Mountains. There were certain places he called headquarters, but he was known as the "Bishop of the Cumberland." Many preachers have gone to the Cumberland Mountains

with sorrow, and left as soon as possible. He went with joy and to remain. Somehow, he caught the spirit and the unlimited possibilities of the mountain people. When he was assigned to Jamestown it was only a name so far as the Methodist Church was concerned. While the town was eighty-five years old it did not have a Methodist Church. When he left there was a thriving young church.

Robert Hall simply took the Cumberland Mountains to his heart and became thoroughly identified with the mountain people. They believed in him. Other pastoral charges in more favored sections of the conference would have been happy to have had him as pastor, but his preference was in the highlands. He was made a member of the "Save the Child" organization and became its field secretary for the mountains. Through this agency he was able to assist many crippled children, and help others who needed medical attention. Through his personal solicitation of money and books, he was able to establish several libraries on the plateau.

The State of Tennessee was doing practically nothing for the mountain people, except in a few centers. The school bus had not reached this area and there were no roads over which they could travel. The bright minds of the children and young people, with no opportunity for training and guidance, all but broke his great heart. Time after time he called the attention of some of the leaders of the Tennessee Conference to the educational need of the people. His appeals fell on deaf ears. But he persisted,

and persisted, and persisted, until finally a dim response was received.

At a mid-year meeting of the Board of Missions and the presiding elders a committee was appointed to make an exploratory trip to the mountains. The committee was composed of a representative of the Board of Missions, Board of Education, Sunday-school Board, and Board of Temperance and Social Service. This committee was instructed to report their findings to the Board of Missions at the Annual Conference scheduled to be held at McKendree in Nashville, October 29-November 3, 1919.

Following is the heart of the report of the committee, which reminds one of the report of Caleb and Joshua: "The field is needy, the call urgent, and the opportunity encouraging." The committee stated further: "From Monterey to Crab Orchard the committee has received about a half dozen propositions, consisting of land, timber, and money, with which to locate the proposed institution."

The committee thought it was advisable not to act too hastily before the final conclusion was reached, and recommended the appointment of another committee composed of the following members: "Dr. William B. Ricks, president of the Conference Board of Missions, as ex-officio chairman and four laymen, viz., Col. John E. Edgerton, E. E. French, George E. Bennie, and O. K. Holladay—and four preachers, one of whom shall be the presiding elder of the Lebanon District, the others being Dr. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. V. Jarratt, and Rev. C. E. Hawkins."

This committee was given the power to act on all matters

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pertaining to the proposed school when two-thirds of the members present and voting agreed.

The Conference Board of Missions accepted these recommendations, and requested the Tennessee Conference to approve the same, which was done. With this action on the part of the conference, the ground work was prepared for Cumberland Mountain School at Crossville. Rev. Raymond Paty was chosen for the first president.

Reverend Robert Hall, who had devoted all his ministerial life in the Cumberland Mountains, who was the inspiration and chiefly responsible for the school, was not placed on the exploratory committee, nor made a member of the founding committee, nor a trustee of the institution. There was not a member of the Founding Committee, Board of Trust or of the Tennessee Conference who could have raised as much money and made as fine impression for Cumberland Mountain School in the Tennessee Conference as Robert Hall.

Now we lift him up in precious memory, and place an imaginary wreath on his grave in the mountain cemetery at near-by historic Mt. Gilead, to await the resurrection of the just when he will hear the Master say, "well done thou good and faithful servant."

TENNESSEE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

T.P.I. located in Cookeville is not a Methodist institution, but is an agency in spreading Methodism in the Cumberland Mountains and elsewhere. Probably more than half of its four thousand students are of Methodist belief.

THE WESLEY FOUNDATION AT TENNESSEE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

The Wesley Foundation at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute is an institution of the Tennessee Annual Conference. It grew out of the desires and efforts of Cookeville First Methodist Church to minister more adequately to the Methodist students in this college community. The initial planning and organizing began in the early 1950's. The Foundation was formally chartered in 1954. By 1958 this group had met the standards of accreditation prescribed by the Department of College and University Religious Life of the Methodist Board of Education in the areas of organization, personnel, facilities, program, relationships, and finance, and was raised to the status of an accredited Wesley Foundation.

During the period 1958-1960, the Reverend James R. Cox and Mr. David R. Noble served as Director and Associate Director. It was during their ministry that the Wesley Foundation building was erected and opened for student use. Many others have labored long and tirelessly to establish this ministry.

The first full-time Director, the Reverend Thomas A. Meadows, came to this ministry in August, 1960.

The Wesley Foundation seeks to meet the needs of a growing student body. In the Fall of 1961 approximately 800 Methodist students were enrolled. The numerical breakdown by districts is as follows: Clarksville—29; Columbia—25; Cookeville—181; Cumberland—36; Mount

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Pleasant—23; Murfreesboro—78; Nashville—106. The remainder of the students are distributed as follows: Holston Conference—220; Memphis Conference—22; Out-of-State—31; and Foreign—1.

Wesley provides many opportunities for students to relate themselves to a Christian community through its worship, study, fellowship, and various other activities.

The Foundation building is very spacious and attractive. The lower level houses an assembly hall, kitchen, stage, storage and furnace rooms, and rest rooms. The upper level has the lounge, chapel, study, classroom, Director's study, rest rooms, and Director's apartment.

Three levels of administration govern the Wesley Foundation, Board of Directors, Director, and Student Council.

The officers of the Board are: John Poteet, Chairman; Dr. Horace Raper, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. James Carlen, Secretary; Glen Ramsey, Treasurer. The remaining members are: D. B. Sargent; Carl Elkins; Durward McCord; Dr. Kenneth Haile; W. H. Lewis; L. G. Puckett, Jr.; Joe Finley; Mrs. Jared Maddux; Eugene Johns; and Elwood Denison.

The Student Council officers are: Alton Jones, President; Diannah Candler, Vice-President; Leslie Stuart, Treasurer; and Linda Coppinger, Secretary.

Because of Methodism's traditional interest in the relationship between "sound learning and vital piety" the Methodist Student Movement has grown rapidly and has assumed a large role in preparing each student generation

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for leadership in the Church. Many have gone out from the Wesley Foundation at Tech to take places of responsibility as laymen and ministers. Among those entering the ministry are: William Balch, Terry Little, Donald Long, David Compton, Robert Wood, Gary Smith, and Thomas Cook.

REV. E. C. EDENS

Brother Edens first appeared in the Conference Journal as a licentiate local preacher in 1919. His address was Oakley, R.F.D., Tennessee. He was given his first appointment in 1920, and was assigned to Byrdstown Mission, which was the official appearing of Methodism in Pickett County. No salary was assessed for the pastor and nothing was paid. The Presiding Elder was assessed \$20 and received \$20. Bro. Edens raised a total of \$51 for Benevolences including \$6 for Sunday Schools.

Following his work on the Byrdstown Mission in 1920, his appointments were as follows:

- 1921—Byrdstown Mission (second year)
- 1922—Byrdstown Mission (third year)
- 1923—Oakley Mission (assessed for pastor \$310 and was paid \$335)
- 1924—Oakley Mission (2 years)
- 1925—Paran and Rickman Mission
- 1926—Paran and Rickman
- 1927—Paran and Rickman
- 1928—Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove
- 1929—Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove
- 1930—Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

- 1931—Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove
- 1932—Livingston Mission
- 1933—Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove
- 1934—Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove
- 1935—Keltonsborg Mission
- 1936—Keltonsborg Mission
- 1937—Keltonsborg Mission
- 1938—Keltonsborg Circuit (First time to serve a Circuit—Self supporting charge)
- 1939—Celina Circuit
- 1940—Celina Circuit
- 1941—Celina Circuit
- 1942—Celina Circuit
- 1943-1955—On the retired roll of the Tennessee Conference making a total of 35 years as a Methodist pastor.

His entire active ministry of twenty-three years was devoted to the Cumberland Mountains. Three years on the Byrdstown Mission; two years on the Oakley Mission; three years on the Paran and Rickman Mission; four years on Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove Charge; one year on Livingston Mission; back again for two more years on Crab Orchard and Grassy Cove Charge; four years on Keltonsborg Charge; four years on Celina Circuit where his active ministry came to a close.

Probably his greatest service to Methodism and humanity was not his Cumberland Mountain ministry for nearly a generation, but being the father of Dr. Hollis Edens. Hollis was a member of the first graduating class of Cumberland Mountain School; its president for many years, and finally, after several years in the educational work in Georgia, he became president of the famous Duke University where his

active work in the field of education came to an end. He was one of the most efficient, beloved and honored presidents of this great university.

Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Edens of the Cumberland Mountains will forever be honored because of the great achievements of their highly honored son.

The Edens family and the Cumberland Mountains can be distinguished, but they cannot be separated.

SERGEANT ALVIN YORK

Sergeant Alvin York was born, reared and grew to manhood in the Cumberland Mountains. He now resides, in feebleness extreme, in the environs of his childhood. He loves the mountains.

He is not a member of The Methodist Church but Methodists beliefs flow through his system. He was converted during a service conducted in the historic Wolf River Methodist Church.

Sergeant York was a member of the famous 328th Infantry of the 82nd Division in World War I, 1914-1918. He is the best known and most highly decorated non-commissioned soldier in the world. He is the possessor of every medal of honor of all the allied nations in World War I.

His wife—Gracie—is the daughter of Francis Asbury Williams of Fentress County, Tennessee.

CHAPTER X

FAMOUS CHURCH—MT. GILEAD— WHITE COUNTY

A small church approximately three miles northwest of Sparta in White County was organized in the year 1826. It was named "Mount Gilead," which means a "hill of witness." This small church was not listed in the General Minutes. The building was erected in harmony with the rural type of architecture of that period. It was a small log building, approximately 18x20 feet, with a large fireplace and chimney at one end and a door at the other end. The pews were split logs and were supported by long pegs or legs. This building served the congregation for nearly fifty-two years. In 1878, the second building was erected under the supervision of Mr. C. N. Blake, who was the only workman to receive pay for his labor. This building served the congregation for seventy years. Rev. Isaac Woodard was the first pastor of this distinguished Methodist Church, Rev. Garrett W. Martin, Rev. Elisha Carr, and Rev. Burkett Terrell were early pastors of this famous congregation. The first Sunday school was organized in this church by Dr. W. S. Findlay, who was a noted physician. He was the grandfather of Miss Eulalia Campbell, a public school teacher for many years in Nashville. Miss Campbell is a first cousin of Mrs. Paul B. Kern.

So far as it is known, a larger number of young men

entered the Christian ministry from Mount Gilead Methodist Church than from any other church in America. Following is the alphabetical list:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Burkhead, S. F. | 18. Keathley, S. M. |
| 2. Carter, Willie | 19. Keathley, J. C. |
| 3. Copeland, A. G. | 20. Keathley, Andrew |
| 4. Crook, D. C. | 21. Keathley, H. P. |
| 5. Dingis, William | 22. Keathley, Abe |
| 6. Dodson, Willie | 23. Lowry, W. B. |
| 7. Girt, Marrhel | 24. Molloy, J. A. |
| 8. Gist, Marshall | 25. Owing, N. B. S. |
| 9. Grayham, Edd | 26. Smart, Thomas |
| 10. Hensley, Logue | 27. Smith, Hays |
| 11. Hensley, Charley | 28. Smith, David |
| 12. Hudgens, R. H. | 29. Smith, C. B. |
| 13. Hudgens, E. F. | 30. Swindell, W. P. |
| 14. Jarvis, R. L. | 31. Swindell, Raymon |
| 15. Jarvis, H. M. | 32. Sweet, Thomas |
| 16. Keathley, I. W. | 33. Webster, Joseph |
| 17. Keathley, W. R. | 34. Woods, M. P. |

In recent years the third building was erected. It is modern, adequate for modern church activities and a station appointment.

CHAPTER XI

FAMOUS BIBLE CLASS

The Backsliders Class of the Cookeville First Methodist Church was organized on Oct. 1, 1949, with Rev. Thornton Fowler as Teacher, Frank Alexander as President, Otis Carroll, Vice-President, and Robert Williams as Treasurer. In attendance at the first meeting were the above named officers plus Bill Erwin. The total membership at the end of Oct. in addition to the five charter members were: Hooper Eblen, Johnnie McCawley, Thearel Chance, Charles Owens, Charles Stanton, Eugene Johns, Jack Borden, Charles Bullock, Joe Moore, Ernest Mabrey, James Carlen, Hubert Bennett, J. C. Drake, Roscoe Buttry, A. J. Adams, and Alfred O'Kain. The class met for a year or so at Vaughn's Grill. There were two reasons for this: one was that the First Methodist educational building was in the process of being built and there was no classroom available; another was the idea of the group of getting people who were not in the habit of going to Sunday School to enroll instead of hanging around the restaurant, etc., on Sunday mornings.

From the beginning the class has been called the Backsliders Class, although we used the name "young men's fellowship" when we borrowed funds. It was thought for some time that the name "Backsliders" would hurt us in our credit rating, as we borrowed sums of money for projects

and then paid them back from our collections. The name "Backsliders" was officially adopted on Aug. 12, 1958—by then our collections were such that we needed to borrow very little and our credit rating was so well established that we did not need to worry about the name.

From the beginning our class has been very informal. We have fifteen to twenty minutes before class each Sunday morning for coffee and fellowship. Our class is called to order at 10 o'clock—usually with the blowing of a whistle. The President then conducts whatever business there may be, and introduces any visitors or new members that may be present. After this, Mr. Jeff Wall along with Mrs. Wall have some ten to fifteen minutes for the singing of old Gospel hymns. For a long time we had no music. It was thought that the group could not sing. However, Mr. and Mrs. Wall have shown us we can, and I would say this singing is one of the things that the class enjoys the most. During this time our very efficient collector of funds, Mr. Steve Ferguson, goes around and takes up the collection. Although Mr. Ferguson is deaf and unable to speak, he is rather insistent upon the members contributing. He has been known to hold the plate in front of a member, making various signs, until the member makes a contribution. The fellows all understand this and enjoy it. Mr. Hubert Crawford then gives us information as to the ones who are sick or in the hospital along with prospective members. After all these things are taken care of, the class will have some twenty to thirty minutes for the lesson. We do not as a rule follow the International Lesson. In the beginning Rev.

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Fowler used the book of Acts of Apostles as a study. Teachers who have followed have not always been able to do this due to their lack of training in the Bible. Dr. McMillian, who taught the class following Rev. Fowler, used various sources. Since 1954, Professor Fred Moore has been the regular teacher. He, along with the President of the class, has from time to time called on members of the class or people outside the class to take from one to two Sundays a month. A person who teaches the class is at liberty to talk upon any subject he wishes, so long as it is of a religious nature.

During the years the class has taken over and completed some projects of note. The first of any size was the completion of Fellowship Hall First Methodist where the class now meets. The class paid out on this project, \$2,462.80. This money was raised by the class collections. It has been the accepted practice for each member to contribute one dollar per Sunday. This is not forced upon anyone. It has never been discussed or has there ever been a motion to this effect, but it has been sort of an unwritten rule.

The class's next big project was towards the purchase of the chimes for First Church. On this project the class contributed \$4,500.00. Other gifts to First Church was Visual Aid Equipment at the cost of \$700.00—Bells for Chapel Choir, \$276.00. The class, feeling that it should contribute to the local Sunday School fund, has given 10% of its collections over the past years in the amount of \$1,498.88. In addition the class has given over the years \$3,630.57 to the building fund of the church. The total of the class givings

FAMOUS BIBLE CLASS

to First Church over the years, \$13,294.18. The above can be accounted for by canceled checks. There is no doubt that there are several thousand dollars that have been lost track of.

Another of the projects of the class has been towards the building and furnishing of the Wesley Foundation.

The class, several years ago, contributed \$750.00 for a lot bought from Dr. Esther Lee for the purpose of extending the outdoor recreation facilities of the Foundation. In addition the class has contributed towards the building and equipment of the Foundation, \$2,606.56.

Another sum of note was a donation to Park View Methodist Church on Apr. 22, 1957, of \$1,000 on a lot for building. Smaller donations of the class have been \$63.00 for bed at Beersheba Springs, and \$75.00 for a calf added to the herd at our Cumberland Mountain property at Crossville.

The class's big project over the years and one they have enjoyed very much has been their aid to the rural churches. We have from time to time visited these churches in body and held our Sunday School Service. At such time we would leave with them our collection and usually a contribution. This contribution, as a rule, was on a matching basis, for a project of the church visited.

The Steering Committee, composed of E. C. Reeves, Chairman, George Ford, Gaskell Warren, Robert Williams, Cecil Davis, Fred Moore, and Earl Dial, has had the feeling that it was best to help those churches that were able and willing to help themselves. This report would be

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

too long if we should try to list all of the churches we have visited over the years with our contributions. In looking over the record for the last 12 months (1961), the following contributions have been made to the rural churches:

Harris Chapel	\$ 207.00
Salem	345.00
Summerfield	351.00
Wrights Chapel	550.00
Paran	415.00
Rickman	550.00
Carrs Chapel	30.00
Zion Hill	286.00
Brotherton	340.00
	<hr/>
	\$3074.00

In addition during the last 12 months the class has given \$500 to Rev. Eugene Lovell for his mission work in the Congo. Also contributed \$250 towards the purchase of a Public Address System for First Methodist.

The total contributions of the class over the years, for which we have a record, amounts to a little over \$25,000.

We as members of the class have felt a keen interest in the rural church. We feel that the rural church must be saved as it has been and still is the seed bed of Methodism in this area. As most of our members are products of the rural church (this would be true of most congregations in the Tennessee Conference) we feel we know them and understand their problems. We also enjoy visiting them and seeking to encourage them. This visitation program, where the class goes in body to the church and has its Sunday

FAMOUS BIBLE CLASS

School Service, is a very important part of our service to the rural church. We feel that the visit helps them possibly as much as our contribution.

Many of these churches we have aided and shown an interest in were on the verge of closing. This personal interest along with the contribution has given them new life. Some have gone on to paint, inside and out, buy pews and even brick their building. We as a class feel that this is our greatest service. It is the thing that has kept the class going and glowing over the years.

The name "Backsliders" has had an implication over the years for which we are proud. The class has felt it was its mission to help those who were spiritually sick. Jesus said, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." We as a group have sought to search out and help those who were not connected with any church and proclaim to them the simple Gospel in all of its power. Our motto has been that any man regardless of his state, can through the power of Jesus Christ, become the person he should be.

Following is a list of the Presidents of the class from its beginning to the present:

1949-1950 Frank Alexander	1955-1956 John Bullington
1950-1951 Otis Carroll	1956-1957 Wilburn Shell
1951-1952 Cecil Davis	1957-1958 Jack Mann
1952-1953 Fred Roberson	1958-1959 Powell Jewell
1953-1954 James F. Short	1959-1960 Dr. L. T. Reeves
1954-1955 Perry Phipps	1960-1961 Malcon P. Quillen
1961-1962 Earl Dial	

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

BACKSLIDERS CLASS ROLL

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Adams, A. D. | 37. Chance, Thearel |
| 2. Adams, Chester | 38. Childress, Ray |
| 3. Alexander, Frank | 39. Clement, W. B. |
| 4. Ament, Kelley | 40. Coakley, Frank |
| 5. Anderson, Joe | 41. Coday, Noble |
| 6. Auger, John | 42. Conley, Taylor |
| 7. Ayers, Harold | 43. Cooper, Walter |
| 8. Bailey, J. N. | 44. Craun, William |
| 9. Barnes, H. S. | 45. Crawford, Hubert |
| 10. Beckham, B. H. | 46. Crawford, Will G. |
| 11. Bellar, Frank | 47. Crockett, John |
| 12. Bennett, Hubert | 48. Darwin, Charles B. |
| 13. Bilbrey, Robert | 49. Davis, Cecil |
| 14. Bohannon, Keith | 50. Davis, George |
| 15. Borden, John | 51. DeBerry, J. T. |
| 16. Bohannon, Jim H. | 52. Denny, John Henry |
| 17. Bowden, Edward B. | 53. Dial, Earl |
| 18. Bowers, Tom | 54. Dorrycott, James C. |
| 19. Bozanich, Alex | 55. Dowell, Terry |
| 20. Bradshaw, Dale | 56. Downs, Rufus |
| 21. Brewer, E. F. | 57. Drake, J. C. |
| 22. Brewer, E. T. | 58. Duke, Herman |
| 23. Bryan, John | 59. Dupes, Bill |
| 24. Buck, Robert | 60. Eaves, W. A. |
| 25. Bullington, John A. | 61. Eblen, Hooper |
| 26. Bullock, Charles | 62. Ellison, Glenn |
| 27. Burgess, Holla | 63. Erwin, W. J. |
| 28. Bussell, Hugh | 64. Eubank, Holmes |
| 29. Buttery, Roscoe D. | 65. Eubank, Walter |
| 30. Byrd, Clyde | 66. Ferguson, Steve |
| 31. Caldwell, Roy | 67. Ferrell, Zollie |
| 32. Carlen, James | 68. Finley, Frank |
| 33. Carrington, Clarence | 69. Flatth, Earl |
| 34. Carroll, Otis | 70. Ford, George |
| 35. Carter, Bob | 71. Fowler, H. T. |
| 36. Casey, A. F. | 72. Fox, E. E. |

FAMOUS BIBLE CLASS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 73. Frey, Calvin | 110. King, Leslie H. |
| 74. Fulton, Jack | 111. Langford, Harley |
| 75. Garrett, Curwood | 112. Lamarr, Royce |
| 76. Garrett, J. C. | 113. Larrick, R. V. |
| 77. Gaw, Oscar | 114. Lee, Joe |
| 78. Gaw, Ridley | 115. Lewis, W. H. |
| 79. Gentry, Claude | 116. Little, Robert |
| 80. Gentry, Harry | 117. Legan, George |
| 81. Gingle, Ed | 118. Lynn, James A. |
| 82. Greenwood, Potter | 119. McCawley, John L. |
| 83. Greenwood, Robert | 120. McClain, Dennis |
| 84. Haile, Kenneth L. | 121. McCulley, Charles |
| 85. Hake, Hamilton | 122. McKay, A. B. |
| 86. Hamblin, Foster | 123. McKinley, J. C. |
| 87. Hankins, Carl | 124. McKinley, Robert |
| 88. Harris, Frank | 125. Mabry, Ernest O. |
| 89. Hassler, E. | 126. Mann, Jack |
| 90. Hassler, Harold | 127. Markham, Thos. R. |
| 91. Hassler, S. | 128. Massa, Cliff |
| 92. Hitchcock, Ammon | 129. Massa, Ray |
| 93. Hodges, Cleo | 130. Matthews, Bill |
| 94. Hodges, Earl | 131. Maynard, Loyd |
| 95. Horne, Thurman R. | 132. Milton, Claude |
| 96. Hubbard, John | 133. Moiser, Jimmy |
| 97. Hudgens, Joe F. | 134. Morehead, Maurice |
| 98. Hudgens, Willie | 135. Moore, Fred |
| 99. Huddleston, Donald | 136. Moore, Joe |
| 100. Irvine, Robert | 137. Moore, John |
| 101. Jewell, Powell | 138. Moore, Pennock |
| 102. Johns, Eugene | 139. Moore, William C. |
| 103. Johnson, George | 140. Mullinax, James |
| 104. Kell, Tom | 141. Nash, Earl |
| 105. Keller, D. J. | 142. Norrnan, D. |
| 106. Kemp, Ray | 143. Oakley, James C. |
| 107. Ketchersid, George | 144. Odham, Charles |
| 108. Klein, G. A. | 145. Officer, Dave |
| 109. Kidd, James | 146. O'Kain, A. B. |

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 147. Owens, Charles | 175. Smoot, William E. |
| 148. Owens, Ray | 176. Snow, Marvin |
| 149. Palk, C. B. | 177. Stanton, Charles |
| 150. Pangle, Charles | 178. Stewart, William |
| 151. Patton, George | 179. Stockton, Oscar |
| 152. Phipps, Perry L. | 180. Stradley, W. B. |
| 153. Piercy, Claude | 181. Sublett, Robert |
| 154. Plummer, C. B. | 182. Taylor, William S. |
| 155. Poteet, George | 183. Teeple, Billy J. |
| 156. Poteet, John | 184. Thompson, Albert |
| 157. Poteet, Robert | 185. Todd, Roy |
| 158. Poteet, Sam | 186. Tucker, Wilburn |
| 159. Qualls, Herman | 187. Vaughn, Charles |
| 160. Quillen, Malcolm P. | 188. Vaughn, Sam |
| 161. Ramsey, Glen | 189. Wagers, John |
| 162. Ray, George P. | 190. Wall, Estel |
| 163. Reeves, Edwin C. | 191. Wall, Jeff |
| 164. Reeves, L. T. | 192. Wall, John |
| 165. Robbins, J. B. | 193. Wall, W. H. |
| 166. Roberson, Fred | 194. Warren, Gaskel |
| 167. Rogers, Gene | 195. Webb, P. N. |
| 168. Rowden, F. H., Jr. | 196. West, Allen M. |
| 169. Schultz, Fred | 197. White, Whitney |
| 170. Scott, C. D. | 198. Whitson, Howard |
| 171. Scott, Joe | 199. Williams, C. M. |
| 172. Sharpe, Lillard N. | 200. Williams, Robert A. |
| 173. Shell, Wilburn | 201. Williams, Troy |
| 174. Short, James T. | 202. Williamson, Joe |

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

The Cookeville District has had the honor of entertaining the Tennessee Annual Conference twice since the Methodist Church entered the Cumberland Mountains one hundred and fifty-nine years ago. The Conference was first entertained by the Cookeville Methodist Church, October

8-13, 1913. The Cookeville Methodist also entertained the Conference, September 1-4, 1955. The facilities of the Tennessee Polytechnic Institute were used to assist with the entertainment in 1955. Bishop Collins Denny was President of the 1913 session of the Conference and Bishop Roy H. Short was President of the 1955 session of the Conference. Both sessions were really great Conferences.

Near the close of the Centennial session of the Tennessee Annual Conference held at McKendree Methodist Church in Nashville, October 9-14, 1912, the President, Bishop Collins Denny, asked the historic question: "Where shall the next session of the Conference be held?" Cookeville Methodist Church along with others extended invitations for the next session in 1913. At first, it looked as if the Cookeville invitation was only a token of courtesy and to get the growing town and Methodist Church before the Conference. But when Rev. John H. Nichols had finished his speech in favor of Cookeville there was a different feeling about the invitation. He impressed the Conference with the sincerity and the ability of the Methodist, with the cooperation of other denominations in Cookeville, to provide ample entertainment. In his speech he assured the Conference he knew what he was talking about for "He had killed rattlesnakes all over Putnam County." When the vote was taken, Cookeville's invitation was accepted by a large majority.

The Annual Conference in Cookeville 1913 is vividly remembered not because it sustained the Bishops in their veto of the Carnegie donation of a million-dollar gift to the

Medical Department of Vanderbilt University because of the strings attached to the gift, nor the unexcelled hospitality by all denominations of the town, nor the outstanding visitors—Dr. Thomas N. Ivey, editor of the *Christian Advocate*; Dr. Gross Alexander editor of the *Methodist Review*; and Dr. J. D. Hammond who spoke in the interest of Paine College for Negroes; but because of the sermon delivered by Bishop E. E. Hoss at three o'clock in the afternoon of the second day of Conference. His subject was: "What think ye of Christ?" It is humanly impossible to describe the effects of the sermon upon the audience. After he had preached an hour, he remarked after looking at his watch: "I have preached an hour and must close." All over the congregation, replies came—"Go on, go on, go on." And he went on, reaching one climax after another. Every member of that immense congregation, it seems, felt the presence of the Crucified. If not the greatest, it was one of the greatest sermons ever delivered at an Annual Conference in Middle Tennessee.

CHAPTER XII

GROWTH OF METHODISM IN THE CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS

1803-1962

WESTERN CONFERENCE

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1803—Cumberland District | Roaring River |
| Livingston | Livingston |
| 1804—Cumberland District | 1809—Cumberland District |
| Roaring River | Roaring River |
| Livingston | Livingston |
| 1805—Cumberland District | 1810—Cumberland District |
| Roaring River | Roaring River |
| Livingston | Livingston |
| 1806—Cumberland District | 1811—Cumberland District |
| Roaring River | Roaring River |
| Livingston | Nashville District |
| 1807—Cumberland District | Caney Fork |
| Roaring River | Wabash District |
| Livingston | Livingston |
| 1808—Cumberland District | |

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1812—Nashville District | Cumberland District |
| Caney Fork | Roaring River |
| Cumberland District | Green River District |
| Roaring River | Livingston |
| Wabash District | 1814—Nashville District |
| Livingston | Caney Fork |
| 1813—Nashville District | Cumberland District |
| Caney Fork | Roaring River |

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Green River District	Green River District
Livingston	Livingston
1815—Nashville District	Cumberland District
Caney Fork	Roaring River
Cumberland District	1822—Nashville District
Roaring River	Caney Fork
1816—Nashville District	Green River District
Caney Fork	Livingston
Cumberland District	Cumberland District
Roaring River	Roaring River
Green River District	1823—Nashville District
Livingston	Caney Fork
1817—Nashville District	Green River District
Caney Fork	Livingston
Cumberland District	Columbia District
Roaring River	Roaring River
Green River District	1824—Caney Fork District
Livingston	Roaring River
1818—Nashville District	Mountain
Caney Fork	Caney Fork
Green River District	Green River District
Livingston	Livingston
Cumberland District	1825—Caney Fork District
Roaring River	Roaring River
1819—Nashville District	Caney Fork
Caney Fork	Green River District
Livingston	"Kentucky Conference"
Cumberland District	Livingston
Roaring River	1826—Caney Fork District
1820—Nashville District	Caney Fork
Caney Fork	Roaring River
Green River District	Green River District
Livingston	"Kentucky Conference"
Cumberland District	Livingston
Roaring River	1827—Caney Fork District
1821—Nashville District	Caney Fork
Caney Fork	Roaring River

GROWTH OF METHODISM

Green River District	Mountain Mission
"Kentucky Conference"	Hoppensville District
Livingston	"Kentucky Conference"
1828—Cumberland District	Livingston
Roaring River	1834—Lebanon District
Caney Fork	Sparta
Green River District	Mountain Mission
"Kentucky Conference"	Shelbyville District
Livingston	Caney Fork
1829—Cumberland District	Hoppensville District
Caney Fork	"Kentucky Conference"
Roaring River	Livingston
Green River District	1835—Lebanon District
"Kentucky Conference"	Caney Fork
Livingston	Mountain Mission
1830—Cumberland District	Hoppensville District
Caney Fork	"Kentucky Conference"
Roaring River	Livingston
Green River District	1836—Lebanon District
"Kentucky Conference"	Caney Fork
Livingston	Livingston Mission
1831—Cumberland District	1837—Lebanon District
Caney Fork	Caney Fork
Roaring River	Livingston Mission
Green River District	1838—Lebanon District
"Kentucky Conference"	Caney Fork
Livingston	Livingston Mission
1832—Cumberland District	Shelbyville District
Caney Fork	Sparta
Roaring River	Short Mountain
Hoppensville District	1839—Lebanon District
"Kentucky Conference"	Caney Fork
Livingston	Livingston Mission
1833—Caney Fork District	Short Mountain
Roaring River	1840—Cumberland District
Caney Fork	Livingston Mission
Sparta	Murfreesboro District

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Caney Fork	Short Mountain
Short Mountain Circuit	Sparta
1841—Cumberland District	1843—Cumberland District
Caney Fork	Livingston
Short Mountain	Caney Fork
Sparta	Short Mountain
Livingston	1844—Cumberland District
1842—Cumberland District	Gainesboro
Livingston	Livingston
Caney Fork	Caney Fork
	Short Mountain

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN CHURCHES

1845—Cumberland District	Obey's River
Carthage	McMinnville District
Cumberland	Livingston
Gainesboro	Sparta
Livingston	Short Mountain
Sparta	1849—Carthage District
Short Mountain	Carthage
1846—Cumberland District	Cumberland
Cumberland	Obey's River
Livingston	McMinnville District
Sparta	Livingston
Short Mountain	Sparta
1847—Lebanon District	Short Mountain
Carthage	1850—Carthage District
Cumberland District	Carthage
Cumberland	Cumberland
Livingston	Short Mountain
Obey's River	McMinnville District
Sparta	Livingston
Short Mountain	Sparta
1848—Carthage District	1851—Carthage District
Carthage	Carthage
Cumberland	Cumberland

GROWTH OF METHODISM

Short Mountain	Carthage
McMinnville District	Cumberland
Livingston	Livingston
Sparta	Mount Pisgah
1852—Carthage District	Sparta
Carthage	Short Mountain
Cumberland	McMinnville District
Short Mountain	Sparta Station
McMinnville District	1857—Carthage District
Livingston	Carthage
Sparta	Cumberland
Sparta Circuit	Livingston
1853—Carthage District	Sparta Circuit
Carthage	Cookeville
Cumberland	Short Mountain
Short Mountain	Sparta Station
McMinnville District	1858—Carthage District
Livingston	Carthage Circuit
Sparta	Cumberland
Sparta Circuit	Livingston
1854—Carthage District	Sparta Station
Carthage	Sparta Circuit
Cumberland	Cookeville
Short Mountain	(to be supplied)
McMinnville District	Short Mountain
Livingston	1859—Carthage District
Sparta Station	Carthage Circuit
Sparta Circuit	Cumberland
1855—Carthage District	Livingston
Carthage Circuit	Sparta Station
Cumberland Circuit	Sparta Circuit
Short Mountain	Cookeville
Circuit	Short Mountain
Sparta Station	1860—Carthage District
Sparta Circuit	Carthage Circuit
Livingston Circuit	Cumberland
1856—Carthage District	Livingston Circuit

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Sparta Station	1887—Lebanon District
Sparta Circuit	Carthage Circuit
Cookeville	Celma Mission
Short Mountain	Byrdstown Mission
1861—Carthage District	Livingston Circuit
Carthage Circuit	Cookeville
Cumberland	Short Mountain
Livingston	Hilliam Mission
Obed's River	1892—Lebanon District
Sparta Station	Carthage and
Sparta and Cookeville	Alexandria
Circuit	Cookeville Circuit
Short Mountain	Smithville Circuit
1862—Carthage District	Flynn's Lick Mission
Carthage Circuit	Livingston Circuit
Cumberland	Overton Mission
Livingston	Wolf River Mission
Sparta Station	Chestnut Mound
Sparta and Cookeville	Circuit
Circuit	1893—Lebanon District
Short Mountain	Carthage
1863—No session—Civil War	Smithville
1864—No session—Civil War	Cookeville and
1865—Carthage District	Pleasant Grove
Carthage Circuit	Flynn's Lick Mission
Livingston	Livingston
Sparta Station	Overton Mission
Cookeville and Sparta	Obed River Mission
Circuit	1896—Lebanon District
Short Mountain	Carthage and
1883—Carthage District	Alexandria
Carthage Station	Smithville
Livingston	Keltonsburg Mission
Cookeville	Cookeville and
Gainesboro Mission	Mission
Celina Circuit	Gainesboro Mission
	Livingston

GROWTH OF METHODISM

Overton Mission
 Obed River Circuit
 1900—Lebanon District
 Smithville
 Carthage
 Chestnut Mound
 Cookeville Mission
 Gainesboro Mission
 Overton Mission
 Obed River Mission
 Monterey Mission
 Livingston Mission
 1903—Lebanon District
 Smithville Circuit
 Carthage and
 Dixon Springs
 Granville and
 Pleasant Grove
 Cookeville and
 Monterey
 Gainesboro Mission
 Overton Mission
 Livingston Mission
 Obed River Mission
 1906—Lebanon District
 Carthage and
 Cokesbury
 Smithville Circuit
 Granville and
 Pleasant Grove
 Cookeville and
 Monterey
 Gainesboro Mission
 Livingston Mission
 Obed River Mission
 Murfreesboro District
 Caney Fork Mission

Sparta Station
 Sparta Mission—
 Bon Air and Cliftry
 1908—Lebanon District
 Carthage Circuit
 Chestnut Mound and
 Pleasant Grove
 Cookeville Circuit
 Gainesboro and
 Granville
 Livingston Mission
 Monterey Circuit
 Oak Hill and
 Paran Mission
 Obed River Mission
 Smithville Circuit
 Murfreesboro District
 Sparta Circuit
 Sparta Station
 Van Buren Mission
 1912—Lebanon District
 Algood and Paran
 Baxter Circuit
 Byrdstown Mission
 Carthage Circuit
 Celma Mission
 Chestnut Mound
 Cookeville Station
 Gainesboro Circuit
 Livingston Mission
 Monterey and
 Crawford
 Oak Hill Circuit
 Smithville and
 Keltonsburg
 Murfreesboro District
 Bon Air Mission

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Caney Fork Mission	Rickman Circuit
Sparta Station	Sparta Circuit
Sparta Mission	Sparta Station
1915—Lebanon District	1925—Cookeville District
Algood	Algood Circuit
Carthage Circuit	Bon Air and Cliftry
Celma Mission	Celina Mission
Chestnut Mound	Chestnut Mound
Circuit	Circuit
Cookeville Station	Cookeville
Crossville Circuit	Crab Orchard and
Gainesboro Mission	Grassy Cove
Jamestown Mission	Crawford and
Keltonsburg Mission	Davidson
Livingston Station	Crossville Mission
Monterey and	Gainesboro Mission
Crawford	Jamestown Mission
Oak Hill	Keltonsburg Mission
Smithville Mission	Livingston Mission
Murfreesboro District	Livingston Station
Sparta Mission	Monterey Station
Sparta Station	Oakley and Byrdstown
1920—Cookeville District	Mission
Bon Air and Cliftry	Paran and Rickman
Byrdstown Mission	Mission
Celina Mission	Smithville Mission
Cookeville Mission	Sparta Circuit
Cookeville Station	Sparta Station
Crawford and	1930—Cookeville District
Wilder Mission	Algood Circuit
Crossville Mission	Chestnut Mound
Cumberland Mission	Circuit
Hilliam Mission	Carmel and Mount
Jamestown Mission	Mission
Livingston Mission	Cookeville Station
Livingston Station	Crab Orchard and
Oakley Mission	Grassy Cove

GROWTH OF METHODISM

Crawford and Wilder
 Crossville Station
 Gainesboro and
 Granville
 Henry Ford Mission
 Jamestown and
 Mt. Gilead

Livingston and
 Bethlehem
 Monterey Station
 Oakley Mission
 Rickman Mission
 Sparta Mission
 Sparta Station

1940—Cookeville District

Algood Circuit
 Baxter, Station
 Baxter Circuit
 Celma Circuit
 Chestnut Mound
 Circuit
 Clarkrange Circuit
 Cookeville Circuit
 Cookeville Station
 Crossville Circuit
 Crossville Station
 Gainesboro and
 Granville
 Jamestown Station
 Livingston Circuit
 Livingston Station
 Maggart and Mount
 Zion
 Monroe Circuit
 Monterey Station
 Overton Circuit
 Pall Mall Circuit

Picket Circuit
 Smithville Circuit
 Smithville Station
 Sparta Circuit
 Sparta Station

Note—Doyle Circuit, Dowell-
 ton Circuit, Peeled Chestnut
 Circuit were also in the district.
 This was the first full year after
 unification in 1939.

1950—Cookeville District

Algood
 Baxter
 Baxter Parish
 Celina
 Chestnut Mound
 Clark Range
 Asbury-Shifley
 Cookeville-First
 Church
 Salem-Paran
 Crossville-First
 Church
 Cumberland
 Homesteads
 Crossville Circuit
 Dale Hollow Larger
 Parish
 Dowelltown
 Doyle
 Forbus Circuit
 Gainesboro
 Granville
 Grimsley Circuit
 Jamestown

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Jamestown Parish
 Livingston Station
 Maggart-Mount Zion
 Monterey
 Rickman
 Shady Grove
 Short Mountain
 Smithville
 Smithville Circuit
 Sparta
 Sparta Circuit

Note—of the 31 charges, 3
 are near the foot of the Cum-
 berland Mountains.

1961—Cookeville District

(The peak of Methodism to
 date in the Cumberland Moun-
 tains.)

Algood
 Baxter
 Baxter Parish
 Celina
 Chestnut Mound
 Clarkrange
 Cookeville-First
 Church

Paran-Shifley
 Parkview
 Salem-Brotherton
 Summerfield
 Crossville
 Crossville Circuit
 Cumberland Circuit
 Dale Hollow Circuit
 Dowelltown Circuit
 Doyle Circuit
 Forbus Circuit
 Gainesboro
 Granville
 Grimsley Circuit
 Homesteads
 Jamestown
 Jamestown Circuit
 Livingston
 Livingston Circuit
 Maggart-Mt. Zion
 Monterey
 Mt. Gilead
 Rickman Circuit
 Shady Grove
 Short Mountain
 Smithville
 Smithville Circuit
 Sparta-First
 Sparta Circuit

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN CHURCHES

1845-1939

Little Crab
 Red Hill

Travisville
 Bon Air

GROWTH OF METHODISM

Peeled Chestnut	Maggart
Burges Memorial	Mt. Zion
McDonald Chapel	Allen's Chapel
Dodson's Chapel	Snow Hill
Asbury	Dowelltown
Chanute	Fuller's Chapel
Wolf River (Mt. Union)	Pisgah
Greer's Chapel	Buckner's Chapel
Baxter	Long Branch
Arnold's Chapel	Harris Chapel
Carr's Chapel	Summerfield
Carter's Chapel	

DISTRICT STAFF

1961-1962

District Superintendent	David B. Sargent
Secretary of Missions	P. M. Dixon
Secretary of Evangelism	Carl Elkins
Secretary of Christian Social Concern	E. E. Spiva
Director of Stewardship	Dr. Harold Andrews
Director of General Church School Work	L. G. Puckett
Director of Children's Work	Mrs. Lee W. Medley
Director of Youth Work	Durward McCord
Director of Adult Work	W. E. Moore
Secretary of Town and Country Work	W. W. Johnson
Director of TRAFICO	Alex W. Nichols
Publishing Interests and District Reporter	Clifford Ingram
Director of Christian Higher Education	Elwood Denson
Director of Christian Vocations	David Noble
Lay Leader	L. G. Puckett, Jr.
President, Woman's Society of Christian Service	Mrs. H. L. Upperman
Director of Wesley Foundation, Cookeville	Thomas A. Meadows

CHAPTER XIII

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

In co-operation with our District Lay Leader, L. G. Puckett, Jr., Livingston, Tenn., we are arranging the Pastoral Charges of the Cookeville District into seven areas for the purpose of dividing the responsibilities of the Associate District Lay Leaders and for further development in the work of the Cookeville District Board of Lay Activities.

The Pastoral Charges and Churches are arranged alphabetically, giving the names and addresses of the pastors and the church lay leaders.

We have also listed a pastor-advisor for each area. His duty will be to work with the Associate District Lay Leader.

Sincerely yours,
DAVID B. SARGENT
District Superintendent

COOKEVILLE AREA

P. V. Overall, Associate District Lay Leader, Cookeville, Tenn.
Rev. Carl Elkins, Pastor Advisor, Cookeville, Tenn.

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. ALGOOD | Pastor, Rev. Lee W. Medley | Algood, Tenn. |
| | Lay Leader, Joseph H. Moore | Rt. 6, Cookeville, Tenn. |
| 2. BAXTER | Pastor, Rev. Edward Spiva | Baxter, Tenn. |
| | Lay Leader, L. P. Jared, Jr. | Baxter, Tenn. |
| 3. BAXTER PARISH | Pastor, Rev. B. M. Har-
ness | Baxter, Tenn. |

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Arnold's Chapel	Lay Leader, S. C. Apple	Box 41, Baxter, Tenn.
Bethany	Lay Leader, Elmer C. Brown	Rt. 1, Baxter, Tenn.
Carr's Chapel	Lay Leader, Solon Carr	Rt. 1, Silver Point, Tenn.
Harris' Chapel	Lay Leader, Ed. Holly	Rt. 1, Buffalo Valley, Tenn.
Long Branch	Lay Leader, Bernice Fitts	Lancaster, Tenn.
Stanton's Chapel	Lay Leader, Robert Jared	Star Rt., Baxter, Tenn.
4. COOKEVILLE FIRST	Pastor, Rev. Carl Elkins	Cookeville, Tenn.
	Lay Leader, James A. Carter	22 S. Elm, Cookeville, Tenn.
5. PARAN CIRCUIT	Pastor, Rev. Fred O. Sharp	Algood, Tenn.
Mt. Union	Lay Leader, Floyd Jacques	Rt. 3, Cookeville, Tenn.
Paran	Lay Leader, Vernon Pinkley	Cookeville, Tenn.
Shipley	Lay Leader, Aubrey Boyd	Rt. 4, Cookeville, Tenn.
6. PARK VIEW	Pastor, Rev. Durward McCord	Cookeville, Tenn.
	Lay Leader, Jasper Bailey, Jr.	Box 328, Cookeville, Tenn.
7. SALEM-BROTHERTON	Pastor, Rev. Robert Nolan	Cookeville, Tenn.
Brotherton	Lay Leader, Vance Rockwell	Rt. 6, Cookeville, Tenn.
Salem	Lay Leader, Jess Evans	Rt. 6, Cookeville, Tenn.
8. SUMMERFIELD	Pastor, Rev. Dee R. Poole	Rt. 1, Cookeville, Tenn.
	Lay Leader, Owen W. Reed	E. 14th, Cookeville, Tenn.
9. MONTEREY	Pastor, Rev. James Taylor, Jr.	Monterey, Tenn.
Monterey	Lay Leader, Jess Williams	Monterey, Tenn.
Shady Grove	Lay Leader, Dolphus Romines	Monterey, Tenn.

CROSSVILLE AREA

B. M. Carr, Associate District Lay Leader, Box 308, Crossville, Tenn.
Rev. W. E. Moore, Pastor Advisor, Crossville, Tenn.

1. CLARKRANGE	Pastor, Rev. Herlan R. Dalton	Clarkrange, Tenn.
Cartwright	Lay Leader, Lloyd Hall	Rt. 1, Deer Lodge, Tenn.
Clarkrange	Lay Leader, H. D. Taylor	Clarkrange, Tenn.
2. CROSSVILLE, FIRST	Pastor, Rev. W. E. Moore	Crossville, Tenn.

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

3. CROSSVILLE CIRCUIT	Claysville	Lay Leader, C. D. Bruce Pastor, Rev. M. C. King Lay Leader, C. T. Matthis	204 Taylor St., Crossville Rt. 4, Crossville, Tenn. Rt. 4, Crossville, Tenn.
	Pomona	Lay Leader, W. C. Smith	Rt. 4, Crossville, Tenn.
	Taylor's Chapel	Lay Leader, Clydis Newberry	Rt. 4, Crossville, Tenn.
	Tollitt's Chapel	Lay Leader, Sam Tollitt, Sr.	Rt. 2, Crossville, Tenn.
	Woodlawn	Lay Leader, Mrs. J. L. Thurman	Rt. 4, Crossville, Tenn.
4. CUMBERLAND CIRCUIT		Pastor, Rev. Sam Hughes	Box 346, Crossville, Tenn.
	Crab Orchard	Lay Leader, Laverne Wheeler	Crab Orchard, Tenn.
	Dorton	Lay Leader, Glenn C. Miller	Rt. 3, Crossville, Tenn.
	Grassy Cove	Lay Leader, John Kemmer, III	Rt. 3, Crossville, Tenn.
		Pastor, Rev. Herbert McConnell	Rt. 3, Crossville, Tenn.
5. HOMESTEAD		Lay Leader, Phil O. Harris	Rt. 3, Crossville, Tenn.

GAINSBORO AREA

W. C. Anderson, Associate District Lay Leader, Gainsboro, Tenn.
Rev. W. E. Schaerer, Pastor Advisor, Gainsboro, Tenn.

1. CHESTNUT MOUND		Pastor, Rev. Joe H. Eledge	Box 54, Dowelltown, Tenn.
	Chestnut Mound	Lay Leader, Jess Beasley	Chestnut Mound, Tenn.
	Denny's Memorial	Lay Leader, Luke Shanks	Rt. 1, Silver Point, Tenn.
	Jack Apple	Lay Leader, Henry Bockman	Rt. 1, Buffalo Valley, Tenn.
	Pleasant Grove	Lay Leader, Mrs. R. C. Huddleston	Buffalo Valley, Tenn.
	Rock Springs	Lay Leader, Paul Williams	Rt. 1, Silver Point, Tenn.
2. GAINESBORO		Pastor, Rev. W. E. Schaerer	Gainsboro, Tenn.
		Lay Leader, Donald Bevins	Gainsboro, Tenn.
		Pastor, Rev. Roland Clifford	Granville, Tenn.
3. GRANVILLE	Curry's Chapel	Lay Leader, Wallace Neal	Rt. 1, Granville, Tenn.
	Flynn's Lick	Lay Leader, W. S. Ragland	Rt. 4, Gainsboro, Tenn.
	Granville	Lay Leader, Robert Freeman	Rt. 1, Granville, Tenn.

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Liberty	Lay Leader, R. V. Reynolds	Rt. 1, Granville, Tenn.
4. MAGGART-MT. ZION	Pastor, Rev. Boyd Bishop	Rt. 1, Elmwood, Tenn.
Elmwood	Lay Leader, Marvin Petross	Carthage, Tenn.
Maggart	Lay Leader, V. O. Maggart	Rt. 1, Elmwood, Tenn.
Mt. Zion	Lay Leader, Bethel Woodard	Rt. 1, Elmwood, Tenn.

JAMESTOWN AREA

W. H. Hall, Associate District Lay Leader, Clarkrange, Tenn.
Rev. W. M. Johnson, Pastor Advisor, Jamestown, Tenn.

1. FORBUS CIRCUIT	Pastor, Rev. Benny J. Davis	Forbus, Tenn.
Ashbury	Lay Leader, Harley Huddleston	Forbus, Tenn.
Chanute	Lay Leader, E. O. Williams	Static, Tenn.
Greer's Chapel	Lay Leader, Glenn Barton	Forbus, Tenn.
Red Hill	Lay Leader, O. H. Green	Forbus, Tenn.
Travisville	Lay Leader, Dora Crouch	Forbus, Tenn.
Wolf River	Lay Leader, Edith Pile	Pall Mall, Tenn.
2. GRIMSLEY CIRCUIT	Pastor, Rev. Royla Wheaton	Jamestown, Tenn.
Grimsley	Lay Leader, Henry Norman	Grimsley, Tenn.
Mt. Gillead	Lay Leader, Billy Kilby	Banner Springs, Tenn.
Spring Chapel	Lay Leader, Clyde Hall	Roslin, Tenn.
3. JAMESTOWN	Pastor, Rev. W. W. Johnson	Jamestown, Tenn.
Boatland		
Jamestown	Lay Leader, Gilbert Holt	Jamestown, Tenn.
Little Crab	Lay Leader, Mable Adkins	Rt. 2, Jamestown, Tenn.
4. JAMESTOWN CIRCUIT	Pastor, Rev. Mrs. Jo Blau LaRue	Grimsley, Tenn.
Bowman		
Genesis		
Roanoke	Lay Leader, Earl Smith	Star Rt., Jamestown, Tenn.

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

LIVINGSTON AREA

Lyman Sells, Associate District Lay Leader, Livingston, Tenn.
Rev. Clifford Ingram, Pastor Advisor, Livingston, Tenn.

1. DALE HOLLOW CT.	Pastor, Rev. Glea Shelly	Star Rt., Monroe, Tenn.
McDonald's Chapel	Lay Leader, W. L. Reeser	Star Rt., Monroe, Tenn.
Mt. Pisgah	Lay Leader, Hoover Danila	Allons, Tenn.
Moodyville	Lay Leader, George Rich	Byrdstown, Tenn.
Pleasant Hill	Lay Leader, Radford Collins	Allons, Tenn.
Smith's Chapel	Lay Leader, Johnny Melton	Monroe, Tenn.
Taylor's Cross Roads	Lay Leader, Malcolm Melton	Rt. 2, Monroe, Tenn.
2. CELINA CIRCUIT	Pastor, Rev. Alex Nichols	Celina, Tenn.
Celina	Lay Leader, John Teeples	Celina, Tenn.
McFerrin	Lay Leader, E. L. Neely	Allons, Tenn.
3. LIVINGSTON	Pastor, Rev. Clifford Ingram	Livingston, Tenn.
Livingston	Lay Leader, Lymann Sells	Livingston, Tenn.
Shiloh	Lay Leader, Fred Tayes	Rt. 5, Livingston, Tenn.
4. LIVINGSTON CT.	Pastor, Rev. Lloyd S. Wright	Livingston, Tenn.
Bethlehem	Lay Leader, Bradley Qualls	Rt. 3, Livingston, Tenn.
Fredonia	Lay Leader, Clayton Carr	Rt. 3, Livingston, Tenn.
Hilham	Lay Leader, Ridley Masters	Hilham, Tenn.
Mt. Gilead	Lay Leader, J. P. Nevens	Rt. 4, Livingston, Tenn.
Oak Street	Lay Leader, Claude Cobble	Livingston, Tenn.
5. RICKMAN CT.	Pastor, Rev. John Norvell	Rickman, Tenn.
Dodson's Chapel	Lay Leader, Archie Gilham	Rt. 2, Algood, Tenn.
Oak Hill	Lay Leader, Douglas Wells	Rt. 1, Rickman, Tenn.
Okalona	Lay Leader, Otho Qualls	Rt. 1, Rickman, Tenn.
Pleasant Ridge	Lay Leader, Moody Matheny	Algood, Tenn.
Rickman	Lay Leader, W. H. White	Rickman, Tenn.

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Zion Hill

Lay Leader, Clyde
Hunter

Rickman, Tenn.

SMITHVILLE AREA

Calvin Loring, Associate District Lay Leader, Smithville, Tenn.
Rev. Elwood Denson, Pastor Advisor, Smithville, Tenn.

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| 1. DOWELLTOWN CT. | Pastor, Rev. Ernest
Cashdollar | Dowelltown, Tenn. |
| Dowelltown | Lay Leader, H. M.
Banks | Dowelltown, Tenn. |
| Fuller's Chapel | Lay Leader, Dalton
Cubbins | Rt. 3, Liberty, Tenn. |
| Pisgah | Lay Leader, H. C. Far-
ley | Rt. 1, Dowelltown, Tenn. |
| 2. SHORT MOUNTAIN CT. | Pastor, Rev. W. H.
Harris | Rt. 5, Smithville, Tenn. |
| Bethel | Lay Leader, Houston
Griffeth | Rt. 4, Smithville, Tenn. |
| Short Mountain | Lay Leader, Thurman
Taylor | Rt. 5, Smithville, Tenn. |
| Webb's Chapel | Lay Leader, Bennie Pat-
ton | Rt. 1, Smithville, Tenn. |
| 3. SMITHVILLE | Pastor, Rev. Elwood
Denson | 209 E. Main, Smithville |
| Bright Hill | Lay Leader, A. D.
Ponder | Rt. 3, Smithville, Tenn. |
| Smithville | Lay Leader, B. E.
Thomas, Sr. | Smithville, Tenn. |
| 4. SMITHVILLE CT. | Pastor, Rev. Rudolph
Janes | Smithville, Tenn. |
| Allen's Chapel | Lay Leader, John Max-
well | Rt. 3, Smithville, Tenn. |
| Buckner's Chapel | Lay Leader, Delton
Parsley | Rt. 3, Smithville, Tenn. |
| Jacob's Pillar | Lay Leader, G. B.
Branswell | Smithville, Tenn. |
| Keltonburg | Lay Leader, Jerry Can-
trell | Smithville, Tenn. |
| Snow Hill | Lay Leader, Othel Smith | Smithville, Tenn. |

SPARTA AREA

Joe L. Finley, Associate District Lay Leader, Sparta, Tenn.
Rev. P. M. Dixon, Pastor Advisor, Sparta, Tenn.

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|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. DOYLE CT. | Pastor, Rev. Othel
Dunham | Doyle, Tenn. |
| Cummingsville | Lay Leader, H. L.
Hollingsworth | Rt. 1, Spencer, Tenn. |
| Doyle | Lay Leader, Roy
Swindler | Doyle, Tenn. |

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Frazier's Chapel	Lay Leader, Charlie Davis	Rt. 3, Sparta, Tenn.
Hickory Valley	Lay Leader, A. E. Has-ton, Jr.	Rt. 3, Sparta, Tenn.
Lost Creek	Lay Leader, Powell Lewis	Rt. 3, Sparta, Tenn.
2. MT. GILEAD STATION	Pastor, Rev. Luther M. Long	Rt. 4, Sparta, Tenn.
	Lay Leader, Vernal La Faver	Rt. 5, Sparta, Tenn.
3. SHADY GROVE CT.	Pastor, Rev. Frank Parham	Rt. 1, Walling, Tenn.
Almyra	Lay Leader, A. H. Cooper	Rt. 6, Sparta, Tenn.
Mt. Pisgah	Lay Leader, Edd Jernigan	Rt. 5, Sparta, Tenn.
Peeled Chestnut	Lay Leader, Ted Dank-lefs	Rt. 5, Sparta, Tenn.
Shady Grove	Lay Leader, Clay Cash-dollar	Rt. 1, Walling, Tenn.
Wesley Chapel	Lay Leader, Freeman Ward	Rt. 5, Sparta, Tenn.
4. SPARTA FIRST	Pastor, Rev. P. M. Dixon	Sparta, Tenn.
	Lay Leader, Joe L. Finley	Rt. 4, Sparta, Tenn.
5. SPARTA CIRCUIT	Pastor, Rev. W. M. Stowers	Rt. 1, Sparta, Tenn.
Bon Air	Lay Leader, W. E. Short	Rt. 7, Sparta, Tenn.
Burge Memorial	Lay Leader, Malcolm Alley	Rt. 2, Sparta, Tenn.
Findley	Lay Leader, Beecher Farley	Rt. 1, Sparta, Tenn.
Mt. Carnel	Lay Leader, Clyde Mul-lan	Rt. 1, Sparta, Tenn.

Woman's Work, Cookeville District Tennessee Annual Conference

Although there is no record of the early activities of Methodist women in the Cookeville District, it is certain they served their church and their Heavenly Father as sacrificially and devotedly as the well-known women of the Bible. The first woman's organization in the district was the "Parsonage Committee," organized at Cookeville in

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

1894, for the purpose of having a comfortable home for the pastor and his family. This organization was the forerunner of the many Ladies Aid Societies which were organized in large and small churches throughout the district. It is impossible to estimate the value of the Ladies Aid Societies. They literally lived up to their name and aided in many, many ways—furnishing the parsonage, helping in maintenance, repair work, building, salary aid, and much community service. Although there was no district organization of the "Aids," the women of each church were brought closer together and each woman was given an opportunity to serve. Many women, and through them, their families, were brought into the activities of the church and gained the rich experience of Christian service.

Methodist women also responded to the Missionary challenge. In 1911, the first Woman's Missionary Society was organized at Algood by Miss Nola Byrne, the first secretary for the Cookeville District. During Miss Byrne's term as district secretary, the Cookeville Society entertained the Woman's Missionary Society Conference. Societies had been organized at Monterey, Cookeville, Sparta, and many other churches. It was also at this time that Miss Leona Byrne of Cookeville served as a missionary teacher in Colegio Bennett High School in Brazil. Miss Nola Byrne served the district many years and died in office.

Mrs. J. Lee Epperson, of Algood, succeeded Miss Byrne as district secretary. During Mrs. Epperson's term, and for many years afterward, the Misses Whitaker of Crab Orchard gave \$67.00 yearly for a Chinese college student

HIISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

in the Orient. Largely because of the leadership of the first two district secretaries and Mrs. P. V. Overall and Mrs. O. D. Massa, who followed them in that position, the societies grew in numbers and developed spiritually. No account of the Woman's Work could be complete without including the support and consecrated spirit of each member and the support and leadership given by the ministers of the district. Much was done, not only locally, but support was given projects at home and abroad. When it is remembered that the societies were widely separated and that the roads were poor, too much credit cannot be given the early leaders who believed in the work and did not recognize the difficulties. Truly a great heritage was received by those who follow them.

When the three great bodies of Methodism were united in 1939, the women's organizations were also united. The new organization was called the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Following the pattern of organization from the division, jurisdictional, and conference to the district, the Cookeville District women met in Cookeville First Methodist Church, October, 1940, and organized the Cookeville District Woman's Society of Christian Service. Mrs. O. D. Massa carried on as promotion secretary. Mrs. Thurman Shipley was elected Christian Social Relations Secretary and Miss Ethelyn P. Hill was elected the first secretary of spiritual life. A new woman's organization also came into being at this time, and was called the Wesleyan Service Guild. This was planned particularly to meet the needs of the growing number of employed women. Miss

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Beulah Clark was elected the first District Guild Secretary. The Wesleyan Service Guild worked with the Woman's Society of Christian Service in aims, program, and organization. Report for the first year showed twenty-two societies with a membership of 675; six guilds; and an over-payment of the conference pledge of \$1,300.00. Special recognition was given the three zone leaders, Mrs. L. P. Speck, Mrs. R. L. Hill, and Mrs. J. H. Carlen. It was not by accident that the first report was entitled, "Faith."

The next twenty years passed by quickly. When the twentieth anniversary of the district organization was observed in April, 1961, at the annual district meeting, even those who had been members during that time were amazed at the progress shown. Growth was shown, not only numerically and in giving, but also a strong spiritual strength was evidenced. Again, recognition must be given the leaders although the list could not be completed as each individual member contributed her service, her prayers, and her gifts. Among those promotion secretaries who followed Mrs. Massa were Mrs. Thurman Shipley, Mrs. Henry Smith, Mrs. Ernest Tramel, Mrs. W. J. Erwin, and Mrs. Harold Funk. Following the trend toward more complete district organization the first district president, Mrs. T. K. Potter, of Sparta, was elected. District presidents who followed her in office were Mrs. Fred Moore, Mrs. Jared Maddux, and Mrs. Harry L. Upperman.

Many, many highlights of the past year's activities should be mentioned but that is obviously impossible. The district is proud and humble at the same time that the societies

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

have grown in number, now showing 41 societies, 8 guilds, with a total membership of 1,153, and that they pledged this year \$7,750.00. It is hoped that they can again over-pay their pledge. Some progress cannot be reported completely. This is true in the undergirding of the total program by the spiritual emphasis through the Week of Prayer and Day Apart observances, and the yearly Bible Study. This is true also as shown by increase in Mission Studies, and extra sessions in Children's Work, increased giving for supplies and special attention to subscriptions for the Methodist Woman and World Outlook. Youth and Student Work also receive special attention in their programs. Christian Social Relations brings attention to family, national, and international problems in the hope that Christian solutions may be found.

Methodist women of the Cookeville District have been aware of the "Great Commission." In answer to the call of Missions, they have given not only of their means, but have given their sons and daughters who are now serving throughout the world. Cookeville's Woman's Society of Christian Service, after supporting their own Susan Harris in Korea, supported another missionary, Anne Metz, in Indonesia. The son of Mrs. H. D. Sims, the President of the Sparta Woman's Society of Christian Service, is now serving in the Philippines. Small societies as well as the larger ones have given sacrificially to Missions. The Pisgah Society, with a membership of 15, has given annually \$200.00 and this is an inspiration to all.

The official record of the Tennessee Conference

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Woman's Society of Christian Service lists the following officers and societies in 1961-1962:

President	Mrs. Harry L. Upperman
Vice-President	Mrs. Jared Maddux
Recording Secretary	Mrs. W. J. Erwin
Treasurer	Mrs. T. M. Crain
Secretary of Children's Work	Mrs. W. W. Johnson
Secretary of Christian Social Relations	Mrs. W. E. Moore
Secretary of Literature and Publications	Mrs. J. D. Haston
Secretary of Missionary Education and Service	Mrs. W. Fred Moore
Secretary of Promotion	Mrs. Harold C. Funk
Secretary of Spiritual Life	Mrs. Wallace Lamb
Secretary of Student Work	Mrs. D. B. Sargent
Secretary of Supply Work	Mrs. Ada Bennett
Secretary of Youth Work	Miss Ann Todd
Secretary of Missionary Personnel	Mrs. James Carlen
Secretary of Wesleyan Service Guild	Mrs. Paul Mathis
Wesley House Representative	Mrs. Cyrus Fisher

(Societies)

Algood
 Baxter
 Bethlehem-Fredonia
 Bon Air
 Buckner's Chapel
 Celina
 Clarkrange
 Cookeville
 Crossville
 Dodson's Chapel
 Dowelltown
 Doyle
 Gainesboro
 Granville
 Grassy Cove
 Homestead

Jacob's Pillar
 Jamestown
 Livingston
 Monterey
 Mt. Gilead (Banner Springs)
 Mt. Gilead (Sparta)
 Oak Hill
 Park View
 Peeled Chestnut
 Rickman
 Salem
 Shady Grove
 Smithville
 Snow Hill
 Sparta
 Summerfield
 Webb's Chapel

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

It has been an inspiration to remember the work of Methodist women in the Cookeville District. They have been a part of the great Sisterhood which encompasses the world. The women of the present day will remember their past; will give their best today; and will always press forward, looking to their Heavenly Father for guidance.

Mrs. Harry Upperman

CHAPTER XIV

STATISTICS FOR 1961-1962

Church Membership	14,535
Received on Profession of Faith	348
Infants Baptized	44
Church School Membership	8,873
Number W.S.C.S.	41
Membership W.S.C.S.	1,128
Ministerial Support	
District Superintendent's Fund	\$ 4,110
Episcopal Fund	1,487
Conference Claimants' Fund	15,520
Minimum Salary Fund	3,343
Pastors' Salaries	109,433
Benevolences	
World Service and Conference Benevolences	22,616
Grand Total Paid	\$347,061

APPOINTMENTS FOR 1961-1962

District Superintendent	D. B. Sargent—(6)
Algood	Lee W. Medley—5
Baxter	E. E. Spiva—3
Baxter Parish	B. M. Harness (S)—9
Celina	Alex Nichols—2
Chestnut Mound	J. H. Elledge (PTS)—4
Clarkrange	Herlon Dalton (S)—2
Cookeville:	
First	Carl Elkins—2
Parran Shipley	Fred O. Sharp (IE)—1
Parkview	Durward McCord—1
Salem-Brotherton	R. G. Nolan (S)—6
Summerfield	Dee R. Poole (LE)—2
Crossville	W. E. Moore—4

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

Crossville Circuit	M. C. King (S)—3
Cumberland Circuit	Sam Hughes (S)—1
Dale Hollow Circuit	J. G. Shelley (PTS)—4
Dowelltown Circuit	Ernest Cashdollar (S)—4
Doyle Circuit	Othel Dunham (S)—2
Forbus Circuit	Benny J. Davis (S)—2
Gainesboro	W. E. Schaerer (LE)—5
Granville	R. T. Clifford (LE)—1
Grimsley Circuit	Royal Wheaton (LE)—8
Homesteads	Herbert McConnell—1
Jamestown	W. W. Johnson—3
Jamestown Circuit	Mrs. Jo Blan LaRue (S)—7
Livingston	Clifford Ingram—4
<u>Livingston Circuit</u>	L. S. Wright (S)—1
Maggart-Mt. Zion	Boyd Bishop (S)—3
Monterey	James Taylor, Jr.—2
Mt. Gilead	L. M. Long (LE)—2
Rickman Circuit	John Norvell (LE)—1
Shady Grove	Frank Parham (S)—1
Short Mountain	W. H. Harris (S)—1
Smithville	Elwood Denson—2
Smithville Circuit	Rudolph Janes (S)—2
Sparta, First	P. M. Dixon—9
Sparta Circuit	W. M. Stowers (LE)—6
District Staff:	
Secretary of Missions	P. M. Dixon
Secretary of Evangelism	Carl Elkins
Secretary of Christian Social Concern	E. E. Spiva
Director of Stewardship	Dr. Harold Andrews, Sparta
Director of Church School	L. G. Puckett, Smithville
Director of Children's Work	Mrs. Lee W. Medley, Algood
Director of Youth Work	Durward McCord
Director of Adult Work	W. E. Moore
Secretary of Town and Country Work	W. E. Johnson
Director of TRAFICO	Alex W. Nichols
Publishing Interests and District Reporter	Clifford Ingram
Director of Christian Higher Education	Elwood Denson

CHAPTER XV

PRESIDING ELDERS District Superintendents

From 1803 to 1919, the pastoral charges located in the Cumberland Mountains, were from time to time, assigned to the Cumberland, Lebanon, Carthage, McMinnville, and Caney Fork Districts.

In the Conference Year, 1920-1921, there was an all Mountain District—the Cookeville. Since 1922-1923, pastoral charges at the foothills and valleys of the Cumberland Mountains have been associated with pastoral charges on the plateau on district lines. However, the district has for years been regarded as the "Mountain District."

The following have served as Presiding Elders (District Superintendents since 1919.)

1920—W. H. Beasley
1921—W. H. Beasley
1922—E. P. Anderson
1923—H. M. Jarvis
1924—H. M. Jarvis
1925—H. M. Jarvis
1926—H. M. Jarvis
1927—R. H. Hudgens
1928—R. H. Hudgens
1929—W. V. Jarratt
1930—W. V. Jarratt
1931—W. V. Jarratt
1932—W. V. Jarratt

1933—Harvey W. Seay
1934—Harvey W. Seay
1935—Harvey W. Seay
1936—John Durrett
1937—John Durrett
1938—John Durrett
1939—John Durrett
1940—John Durrett
1941—C. B. Cook
1942—C. B. Cook
1943—C. B. Cook
1944—E. U. Robinson
1945—E. U. Robinson

HISTORY OF THE COOKEVILLE DISTRICT

1946—E. U. Robinson	1954—S. D. Organ
1947—E. U. Robinson	1955—S. D. Organ
1948—E. U. Robinson	1956—D. B. Sargent
1949—E. U. Robinson	1957—D. B. Sargent
1950—S. D. Organ	1958—D. B. Sargent
1951—S. D. Organ	1959—D. B. Sargent
1952—S. D. Organ	1960—D. B. Sargent
1953—S. D. Organ	1961—D. B. Sargent

We do not have the names of the Presiding Elders who served in the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church from 1845 to 1939. Rev. J. W. Fessmeire, retired, and Rev. H. P. Keathley, deceased served as District Superintendents in the years just prior to Unification in 1939.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	1961-1962	1955-1956	Increase
Pastors' Salaries	\$114,702	\$ 82,519	\$ 32,183
World Service & Conf. Ben.	22,575	13,534	9,041
Conf. Claimants	13,434	8,995	4,439
Dist. Supt's. Fund	4,275	3,520	755
Episcopal Fund	1,580	971	609
Minimum Salary Fund	3,556	740	2,816
Gen. Admn. Fund	645	360	285
Juris. Fund	646	385	261
Int. Fund	403	269	134
Martin College	4,500	3,556	944
District Work	2,783	1,975	808
Increase in Apportionment on Conference Askings ..			\$19,284
Increase in Pastors' Salaries			32,183
Increase in District Work Fund			808
Total Increase			\$52,275

The Church Of My Dreams

This is the Church of my Dreams;
A Church adequate for the task:
The Church of the warm heart,
Of the open mind,
Of the adventurous spirit;
The Church that cares,
That heals hurt lives,
That comforts people,
That challenges youth;
That knows no division of culture or class,
The Church that inquires as well as avers,
That looks forward as well as backward,
The Church of the Master,
The Church of the People,
The high Church, the broad Church, the low Church,
—High as the ideals of Jesus,
—Low as the humblest human;
A working Church,
A worshiping Church,
A winsome Church,
That Church that interprets the truth in terms of truth;
That inspires courage for this life and hope for the life to
come;
A Church of courage,
A Church of all good men,
The Church of the living God. —JOHN M. MOORE

* Placed here at the request of the Reverend D. B. Sargent, District Superintendent.

IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM,
AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS.

Proverbs 3:6

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P.C.

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